



Old Texas Rose

Vol 11, Summer 2011

Hello Fellow Rose Rustlers ---

Message from the Chair — Kathy Hyatt

As a gardener, you know you are powerless when dealing with Mother Nature. Even so, we all do what we can to fight back and it seems that this is another case of a valiant fight that we just can't win. Our drought goes on, along with the horribly hot temperatures. Add to this the strong winds and we are losing the battle. I'm now keeping a list of plant deaths in my garden and it is growing steadily. I've lost eight azaleas, three redbud trees and another one on the brink, four hydrangeas...all large and formally thriving. I've also lost four other smaller trees, large pines, and even roses. So far I've counted seven that have gone on to plant heaven. The last one I

lost was Martha Gonzales. Considering where this rose was found, I was truly surprised to see her dwindle and finally die away. Others have not been as surprising. Several of the Bucks roses obviously preferred cooler weather and more water than I could provide.

Yes, I'm discouraged but not defeated. Like all good garden folks, I am a basic optimist and keep thinking that the strong will survive and surely things will get better. And now there is a promise of rain this week, so the hope soars again. Oh, for a wonderful rain, what a delight that would be!

Speaking of delight, I know the July meeting at Mercer Arboretum will be a wonderful day.



Kathy Hyatt at the TRR Fling with Felder

Inside this issue:

Page 2

2011 TRR Rookie
Rustler Meeting

Page 2 -4

Spring Fun – 2011 Annual
Spring Symposium:
A Trip to ARE

Spring Fun – Andrea Wulf:
Digging The Founding Fathers

Page 4

A Visit to Bartram's Garden

Page 5

Delicious Recipes With Gardeners
In Mind

Page 7

Old News Is New Again – A "Old
Texas Rose" Reprint

Page 10

Membership Time &
Save These Dates!!!

How can you go wrong with the location as beautiful as Mercer? Our panel discussion should be both informative and entertaining with long-time Rose Rustlers discussing past "rustles". We also have Doana Fite presenting her program on the history of the Rose Rustlers. If you haven't seen it, you're in for a treat, and if you've heard it before, I know you'll enjoy it again. Plus, of course, we'll have our lotto and lots of camaraderie in air conditioned comfort. Now, this is surely something to look forward to during the heat of summer. Hope to see you there!..... *Kathy*

2011 July TRR Rookie Rustler Meeting at Mercer Arboretum —

By Becky Smith, Program Chair

Time has come for our annual Rookie Meeting on July 9th at Mercer Arboretum & Botanical Gardens. This year we will be delving into TRR's past. At 10:30 a panel of long-time TRR members including Mike Shoup, Dr. Bill Welch, Earl and Deanna Krause, Ray Ponton, Robert Stiba, and Audrey McMurray will be discussing our organization's history and stories of past rustles. Candy Fite will be our moderator.

The Texas Rose Rustlers are still trying to assign a specific year as the beginning of our organization.

With a little luck, we hope to accomplish this at the Mercer meeting. I bet our panel can come up with a date!

After a pot luck lunch at noon (gardeners are usually excellent cooks), Doana Fite will give her power-point program, "Who Are the Rose Rustlers?" which many of us enjoyed at Rose Dango last October.

Be sure to bring your **LOTTO PLANTS** and a dish for the **POTLUCK LUNCH!**

We are looking forward to seeing you at Mercer!.....*Becky*



By Carolyn Stracik

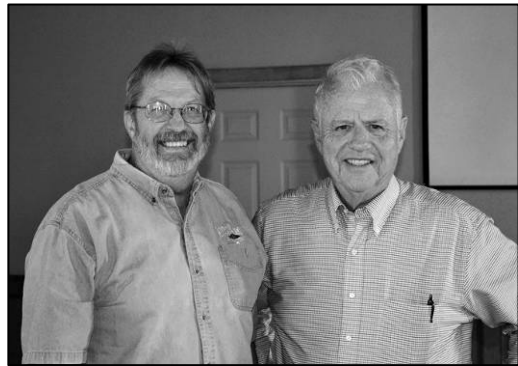
What great fun we had this Spring – first with TRR's Annual Spring Symposium at the Antique Rose Emporium in Brenham, and then the Andrea Wulf presentation hosted by TRR, the Sugarland Garden Club, and the Fort Bend Master Gardeners. I do hope that many you had the opportunity to join in, but if not, enjoy the following articles!

2011 Annual Spring Symposium: A Trip to ARE

We had a great turn-out and enjoyed a laid back day of roaming the beautiful gardens of ARE, visiting with friends, a tour of the production facilities by Mike Shoup, and a wonderful talk by Dr. William Welch on Old Roses. The day was beautiful, but as this Spring and Summer have been, already warming up and dry. The tour was fantastic and informative. Mike could get a mouse excited about compost tea! He is being rewarded with healthier plants and gardens by taking the effort to learn more holistic methods of gardening. And that can't be an easy thing to implement in a business environment. It did my heart good to see what efforts ARE and Mike are making to be good stewards of the land. We can all learn from that!

And of course, we're always delighted to listen to Dr. Welch speak of roses. His rose photographs were beautiful as he went through a slideshow that highlighted many past rose finds. And Dr. Welch brought his new book, a joint effort with Greg Grant, *Heirloom Gardening in the South*. I have thoroughly enjoyed reading it and highly recommend it!

We were treated to some wonderful desserts that were made by Mike's wife, Jean. They were delicious, and she was kind enough to share her recipes with us. They are provided in this newsletter.



*Mike Shoup and Dr. William Welch — Aren't We Lucky To Have 2 Such Great Rose Advocates in Texas!!
Photo Courtesy of Barbara Buckley*



Mike Shoup speaking to the Rustler's at his Shipping Barn and Compost Tea Facility - Photo Courtesy of Barbara Buckley



*Andrea Wulf
Photos Courtesy of Randy Kozlovsky*

Andrea Wulf: Digging the Founding Fathers

What a great presentation! Her depth of knowledge and research was truly amazing, and while at first one may not see the tie between our founding fathers, politics, and gardening, Andrea's presentation surely did tie it all together for us. She spoke of how our founding fathers' attitude toward nature shaped this nation, and how they believed, as Thomas Jefferson wrote, "Cultivators of the earth are the most vigorous, the most independent, the most virtuous." The greater the proportion of husbandmen, James Madison believed, "the more free, the more independent and the more happy must be the society itself."

And did I mention that they were utterly obsessed with manure and recipes for compost. Amidst battles in the Revolutionary War, our Founding Fathers were discussing dung and muck. They must have been some pretty cool guys – don't you think!

Andrea has written several novels, including *Founding Gardeners – The Revolutionary Generation, Nature and the Shaping of the American Nation*”.



*Andrea Wulf Speaking To A "Sell-Out" Crowd
Photos Courtesy of Randy Kozlorsky*

A Visit to Bartram's Garden —

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

By Faith Bickley



Visiting Bartram's Garden (Enjoying the walk is Faith's Daughter Amy with two grandsons, Ben and Jack)

After reading Andrea Wulf's *The Brother Gardeners* and *The Founding Gardeners* and then hearing her speak in May, I was very much motivated to visit [John Bartram's Garden](#).

John Bartram is considered America's first botanist before we actually were "America". He foraged south all the way to Florida and as far west as the Appalachian mountains in the 1730's and years later, finding native trees and plants and propagating them on his farm near Philadelphia. For several decades, he provided English botanists and gardeners with these American plants and seeds and changed the look of English gardens.

I was fortunate to have the opportunity to visit my daughter and family in the Philadelphia area in June. I had discovered that the Bartram Garden was located near the airport so easily "persuaded" my daughter to stop there before she dropped me off for my flight home. I was not disappointed. This is a very natural, relaxed place with the old Bartram house and gardens in their original state. Having read

about Bartram, it was truly exciting to experience his home firsthand.

I look forward to revisiting the Bartram Garden, and my daughter plans on taking advantage of some of their homeschooling activities.....*Faith*

Lovely Desserts — Shared with TRR by Jean Shoup

Rose Geranium Pound Cake –

from *Southern Herb Growing* by Madalene Hill & Gwen Barclay

This famous cake freezes well and is equally delectable served with fresh fruit or vanilla sauce in place of the Lemon Curd.

Ingredients:

10-12 rose geranium leaves, stems removed

1 ½ cups butter

3 cups vanilla sugar (or add 1
teaspoon vanilla extract if using
plain sugar)

5 eggs

3 cups sifted flour

6 ounces lemon-lime soda (do not
use diet soda)

1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice

Additional rose geranium leaf for
garnish

Method: Grease and flour a 10-inch
Bundt or tube cake pan. Place
geranium leaves face down on
bottom of pan, tearing some leaves
apart to fill in completely. Preheat
oven to 325°.

Cream butter and sugar with
electric mixer until light and fluffy. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well between each
addition. Add flour alternately with soda, beating well. Stir in lemon juice.

Pour batter into prepared cake pan, smoothing top. Bake 1 – 1 ¼ hours. If necessary to
prevent over-browning (ovens vary), place a piece of aluminum foil lightly over the cake
toward end of baking. After cake is removed from oven, cool for 10 minutes; invert
carefully on plate.

Slice cake and serve with warm Lemon Curd. Garnish with fresh rose geranium leaf. Yields
15-20 slices.



Basil-Lime Cookies – from *Southern Herb Growing* by Madalene Hill & Gwen Barclay

Delicious, crispy cookies with an indefinable taste. This recipe is great as originally crafted, but Jean was creative and substituted lemon verbena and lemon thyme for the cinnamon basil and substituted lemon zest for lime – delicious!

Ingredients:

2 cups sifted all-purpose flour
1 ½ teaspoon baking powder
½ teaspoon salt
2/3 cup softened butter or margarine
1 cup sugar
1 egg
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
3 tablespoons fresh cinnamon basil, chopped
1 tablespoon finely chopped lime peel
1 cup pistachios, chopped

Method: Sift first 3 ingredients; set aside. In large mixer bowl, beat butter at medium speed until light. Gradually beat in sugar; add egg, vanilla, basil and lime peel, beating until very light and fluffy.

At low speed, beat in dry ingredients in 3 or 4 additions. Mix in chopped nuts, using hands if necessary.

Turn out dough only lightly floured surface; divide in half. Shape each half into a roll 6-7 inches long. Roll in plastic wrap. Refrigerate until firm, at least 8 hours.

When ready to bake, preheat oven to 375°. Cut dough into 1/8-inch slices and place 2 inches apart on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake 8-10 minutes or until lightly brown (do not overcook). Immediately remove from sheet with spatula and place on wire rack to cool. When completely cool, store in airtight container.

Note: Rolls of dough may be frozen. Thaw for a short time in refrigerator just before baking.

Rose Petal – Vanilla Bean Shortbread – from the James Beard Foundation website, Shuna Lydon, Peels Restaurant & Bakery, NYC

These rose petal-flecked cookies have a wonderful crumbly texture and a delicate sweet, floral flavor. Chef Shuna Lydon says, "Shortbread keeps for 2 weeks in a tightly sealed container lined with parchment paper, at room temperature. But I prefer to eat mine fresh from the oven, warm, with strong black milky tea."



Ingredients:

1 cup unsalted butter at room temperature
1/2 cup plus 2 tablespoons sugar
1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
2 tablespoons dried rose petals
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/4 vanilla bean, scraped
2 cups all-purpose flour
Demerara sugar (optional)

Method: In a stand mixer fitted with paddle attachment, cream the butter until smooth. Add the sugar and salt and cream a bit further, just until combined.

Mix in the rose petals, vanilla extract, and vanilla bean seeds, one at a time. At a low speed, mix in the flour until the dough is uniform. It

will be quite crumbly. Wrap the dough as a flat disc and refrigerate for at least 2 hours.

Roll the dough to 1/2 inch thick and lay between two pieces of parchment. Alternatively, roll the dough into a log and roll the log in demerara sugar. Freeze the sheet or log for at least 30 minutes.

Preheat the oven to 325°. Remove the dough and cut into desired shapes using a cookie cutter, or slice the log into 1/2-inch slices. While still frozen, space the cookies on parchment-lined baking sheet, leaving about 1/2 an inch of space between cookies.

Bake the cookies for 15 minutes. Rotate the sheet pans and bake the cookies for an additional 8 to 12 minutes, until evenly golden brown. Yields 3 1/2 dozen cookies.



Old News Is New Again!

Becky Smith brought this article to our attention. It ties in beautifully with our topics at the upcoming July Rookie Meeting. Enjoy!!!!

Old Tales of an Old Old Rose Collector

by Pamela Ashworth Puryear — TRR Old Texas Rose, Summer 1987

When I first began my (in)famous career as the Central Texas Old Rose Rustler, I bought one of those blank bound books and optimistically wrote therein, "The Rose Book, 1979." My first photograph I pasted opposite, showing a bare expanse of cultivated flower bed; this I labeled, also optimistically, "Before."

In re-reading this little book I was struck by how much encouragement I was given. Vera Hein, of New Franklin, Missouri, wrote me of her escapades in local cemeteries. I remember being jealous of her husband (who drove the getaway car!). Vickie Jackson, the Regional Heritage Rose Group coordinator, wrote long and helpful letters....I wonder now how she ever found the time??!!

September 1, 1979, Mother and I found one of my favorites. It graced the corner of a gray cottage with aqua shutters on the back street in Anderson, the home of Mary Minor, a dear black grandmother. Mrs. Minor, who could root roses by just poking pieces in the ground, generously gave me – and later the Rustlers – at least five starts of her Bourbon Rose namesake, very like Souvenir de la Malmaison (1843).

On September 3rd, we found Mr. Perez's white rambler behind a service station on West Washington Avenue. Mr. Perez lives in an interesting old house and had collected unusual plants in his yard. This rose was rooted on a porch pillar and had climbed over the porch roof and garage so he could not get the car into the garage! It was blooming well at the time so we thought it was a Noisette. Now, I believe it to be Prosperity, a Hybrid Musk.



Souvenir de la Malmaison
Photo Courtesy of Becky Smith



Another local discovery of this period was a once bloomer on my great aunt's house. After much thought, I conclude "Blake" is really Félicité, and the famous "Boat Rose" is the ancestral pink rambler. "Blake" is a woody climber to 20 feet with double pink flowers about the size of a half dollar. Bill Welch grew it over an old well at his farm, while it never achieved the spectacle his front gate did, it was still a fantastic show. In November, 1979, Diane Stewart, wife of A&M English Department head, Dr. David Stewart, joined me for The First Rustle. Diane and I got "Camp Inn Rambler" (viz. Excelsea) and the famous Old Blush in the Anderson Cemetery.



Félicité — Photo Courtesy of Niels Plougmann at <http://rosesingardens.blogspot.com>

Cousin Jane Lott introduced me to what we now call "Morton-Gorce." Her neighbor, Mrs. Morton, got it from Mrs. Gorce (the dentist's wife) when she married fifty years ago,



Hume's Blush

perhaps. "Morton-Gorce" is a thin foliated, woody bush, reminiscent of Hume's Blush, an early Tea. I realize now that it was the same as another we found in two yards in Bellville. Bellville was our first real bonanza, and I still regret "the ones that got away." These were in a wonderful yard at 405 N. Cochran, belonging to Raymond Fisher. Mr. Fisher was descended from Early Austin County settlers and had inherited the roses he grew. On his walk he had Cramoisi Superieur, and a small flowered polyantha (like Lindee, in the Antique Rose Emporium catalogue), Paul's Scarlet on the back fence, "Morton-Gorce" on the west fence, and a peach colored Tea on his vegetable garden fence. No telling what I missed! He died about two years later and the whole lot was bulldozed. That 1981 Rustle was the one where Margaret Sharpe fixed our car battery with a knowledgeable thump, and Sara Jean Derby dug Mr. Fisher's rose roots with a tire iron. (You really get to appreciate people on a Rustle, and all the company proved magnificent in adversity!)

In February, 1980, we staged a wonderful "Scout" to the Brazos River Tidewater. It was a mild year, and from Bellville south, nothing had frozen over the winter. All the roses were blooming! At East Columbia on the Brazos, we found Fortuniana and the Burr Rose, R.

roxburghii, at Amon Underwood's 1839 plantation house. In front of the old Masterson – or Smith – home, I spotted a Tea rose growing tall in too much shade. It was huge and fat, pink with round buds. I could hardly wait to go back, but when we did all we found was a hole. Someone else had admired it!

In April, 1980, I spotted the light pink shrub roses at Hall's Triangle Store, in Navasota. Last summer I finally got cuttings to Mike Shoup; we named it "Charlemagne" in honor and appreciation of Charles Walker,

who identified it as a Noisette. Charles is the Heritage Rose Group's Southeast coordinator and, more recently, founder of the Heritage Rose Foundation, and he is a fine botanist. The buds of the rose greatly resemble those of Cecile Brunner.

November that year, Mother, Buddy Harrison and I rustled and he found a still unknown rose we named "November Surprise", at Melinda Hemann's house in Navasota. It is the pale yellow Tea with purple-red foliage we have found ALL OVER Christendom.

"Christina", another finding, proved to be "Maggie".



Pam's Pink

Photo Courtesy of Becky Smith

It was November of the next year that I first found "Pam's Pink" at a rent house in Navasota. (We later spotted it in North Zulch, TX – it you can believe it). Bill Welch and I went out on this short collection trip and discovered Martha Gonzales's rose-adorned cottage in Navasota. At Anderson Bill got the Tea we named "Baptist Manse" from behind the Baptist Church. "Maggie" was growing at the doorstep. Later that month, on November 29th, Sunday at 10:00 a.m., the 1981 "Hunt" got off to a moist start. Michael Harrison and Joe Woodard joined Buddy, and S.J. Derby came with Margaret. After discovering the devastation at Bellville, we rode in two cars all the way to Brazoria – in the driving rain! We finished the soggy cucumber sandwiches out of the car trunk in Sealy in a deluge of water. Some Lunch!

Ah, The Good Old Days!!



It's Membership Time!

Do you remember that we switched our membership up so everyone comes **Due in July** – perfect timing with the TRR Rookie Meeting! Dues are \$10.00 per year and include the *Old Texas Rose* newsletter published quarterly and three to four events per year, including the Spring Symposium, the Summer Rookie Rustle, and the Fall Cutting Exchange. And that doesn't include those small impromptu "road trips" that take place!

First, you will need to fill out **The Membership Form** (even if you are already a member it is greatly appreciated and needed). Checks or money orders are made payable to the **Texas Rose Rustlers**. Then you have two choices: 1) bring the form and money (cash accepted) to the TRR Rookie Meeting, or 2) drop the form and monies in the mail to: TRR Membership Chair, 5606 Brennan Ridge Lane, Katy, Texas 77450-5628. Don't forget the stamp – and that's it!

Save These Dates!!!

Becky Smith, Program Chair



July 9th, Saturday

The annual Rookie Rustlers' Meeting will be at Mercer Arboretum again this year. Plans are outlined in this newsletter and look to be a fun and informative day!



October 22nd, Saturday (Tentative)

Our annual Cutting Exchange date and location is still being worked out at this time but will be in the general area of Houston.



We hope that you plan to join us and the fun we will be having. Keep checking the calendar on the [TRR Website](#) and future newsletters for even more information on all the meetings. **And don't forget to grow those lotto plants!!!**

Texas Rose Rustlers Board Members

Chairman	Kathy Hyatt.....	trrchair@texasroserustlers.com
Program Chairman.....	Becky Smith.....	trrprogram@texasroserustlers.com
Secretary	Faith Bickley	trrsecretary@texasroserustlers.com
Treasurer/Membership	Marilyn Almon	trrmembership@texasroserustlers.com
Webmaster	Barbara Buckley.....	webmaster@texasroserustlers.com
Welcoming Committee	Doana Fite & James Buckley ...	trrwelcome@texasroserustlers.com
Old Texas Rose Editor.....	Carolyn Stracik	trreditor@texasroserustler.com