

L'Orleans Rose

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A Quarterly Newsletter of the New Orleans Old Garden Rose Society

Spring 2014

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President's Message..... by Peggy Martin

Peggy Martin & Stephan Scanniello



*Thank you, Thank you, Thank you
all!*

As I stated the night all our officers were sworn in, our presence as a viable strong Rose Society is due to you, our members, who have through the years been loyal, hard working, conscientious, and consistently keeping our Society going. I really appreciate this effort as I know I have not been able to attend all our outside activities; garden tours, sales, and exhibits due to my traveling so much to speak around the country.

Program costs are high. We enjoyed Stephen Scanniello and Carolyn Derouen. The NOOGRS will work to increase fundraising but also reduce

costs. For example, local speakers are less expensive as we are not paying airline transportation. Program suggestions are always welcome.

Everything is really coming up roses as I have received a yes response from Helga Brichet, a Renown World Rosarian. She is traveling around the globe; Australia, China, Japan, South Africa to name a few countries being visited. Helga is the Past President of the World Federation of Roses. Please note, her garden is the primary focus of the Italian rose garden tour with Leo Watermeier in May, 2014 (see emails and note on page 3. We will have a special meeting on March 26, a Wednesday at 7PM to hear Helga speak of her Italian Garden, many roses, and travels. Please mark your calendars. This talk is a special treat!

This past week, I represented the New Orleans Old Garden Rose Society at the Gulf District Winter Workshop in Natchez, Mississippi. I was the moderator for the Saturday morning sessions. We were pleased that Leo Watermeier presented a program on "The Old Garden Rose Collection at Armstrong Park". He included the Cabrini Park and several other parks where growing roses represent significance to old roses in New Orleans. His presentation was well received. Although probably not next year because Mardi Gras is so early; the Gulf District Workshop will be held in New Orleans.

Please also remember because of Mardi Gras on March 4th, we will meet on March 11.

Heritage Rose Foundation (<http://www.heritagerosesfoundation.org>) will be holding its annual conference in New Orleans, November 13-16, 2014 at the Maison Dupuy (1001 Toulouse, New Orleans, LA 70112) in the French Quarter. It is very close to Armstrong Park, where we are displaying our success with old roses. Volunteers are being requested from the NOOGRS members for particularly November 15th. We will need help at the registration desk, in the meeting rooms, and assisting with tours. Any activity suggestions can be sent to me to incorporate into the program (peggyrosemartin@eatel.net).

--Peggy Rose Martin

The Roses of Armstrong Park Leo Watermeier

Louis Armstrong Park is home to one of the largest and most beautiful collections of old roses in this country. It features varieties that do best in the warm humid climate of New Orleans – Teas, Chinas, Noisettes, Tea-Noisettes, and Bourbons. There are presently about 175 different roses. With 8 new Tea roses being added this winter.



Located just across the street from the French Quarter on N. Rampart, the garden was established in 1992 through the efforts of Leo Watermeier, who was then park manager, the New Orleans Old Garden Rose Society (NOOGRS), and the Department of Parks and Parkways. Maureen Detweiler created the original garden design. The goal was to beautify the park while preserving these mostly forgotten roses. Donation came from members and famous rose nurseries.

The roses are integrated into the park's landscaping rather than set in a separate rose garden. Roses are grown individually about 14 feet apart. These plants are mulched with chips from the City's tree



trimming crews. After the first year they are no longer watered. Spraying and fertilizing are seldom provided.

The roses bloom through most of the year with

peak spring bloom in March and April, and peak fall bloom is October through early December. Winter pruning is done between Christmas and Valentine's Day. In late August they are given a lighter pruning to promote the fall bloom. The roses are maintained entirely by volunteers, including Leo, who serves as the garden's curator and at garden 8-12 on Sundays.

Historically, hurricane weather has damaged this garden several times. In August 2005, the winds and flooding of Hurricane Katrina killed about a dozen roses. After each hurricane setback, the roses were quickly replanted and today, like the city itself, the rose garden has come back even better.

The garden is receiving greater recognition. In June, 2010, three of the co-authors of the Australian



book "Tea Roses – Old Roses for Warm Gardens" visited New Orleans during a book signing tour of the United States and Europe. One author later wrote that the visit to the park was "the high point in a tour that had many...the roses are grown exactly as they should be – with room to grow to their full potential and show the world what wonderful, healthy garden specimens they can be". In 2012, The Vieux Carre Commission presented both the NOOGRS and Leo Watermeier with a Certificate of Recognition for Beautification for outstanding work at the rose garden.

Spread information about this important collection of rare and historic roses to attract park visitors and inspire them to plant old roses in their own gardens. Garden is open 7 days a week from 8am until dark. For more information, contact Leo Watermeier at [504-529-2367](tel:504-529-2367) or leowatermeier@cox.net.

NOOGRS Calendar

March	11	Speakers: Becky Smith and Faith Bickley, "The Texas Rose Rustlers, Then and Now."
<i>(note 2nd Tuesday)</i>		
March	14-15	St. Tammany Garden Show
March	22	Rose Sale at Botanical Garden 9-noon
March	26	Speaker: Helga Brichet, former President of World Federation of Rose Societies
April	1	TBA
April	2	Dr. Walsh speaking fundraiser for City Park Botanical Garden (\$45)
April	5-6	City Park Botanical Garden Show
April	11	NOOGRS rose sale at Lakeside shopping center
May	6	TBA
May	15	Newsletter material due
May	16-24	Italian tour
June	3	TBA
August	15	Newsletter material due
September	2, October 7, & November 4	meetings
October	17-19	2014 Fall ARS -Roses in the Piney Woods
November	13-16	Heritage Rose convention in NOLA
December	2	Christmas party



Leo Watermeier and Helga Brichet, former president of the World Federation of Rose Societies, are organizing a small group rose tour to Italy May 16 – 24, 2014. Besides getting to see such famous gardens as Ninfa, Villa D’Este, and La Foce, many private gardens will also be visited, including Helga’s own garden in Umbria. The cost will be \$2,500, not including airfare to and from Rome. To join the tour or for more information, contact: Leo Watermeier 812 N. Rampart St. New Orleans, LA 70116 504-529-2367 or 504-756-9901

2014 OFFICERS

President: Peggy Martin

Vice President: Margaret Ganier

Treasurer: Freny Thunthy

Financial Secretary: Margaret DeLord

Recording Secretary: Veronica Mueller

Historian: Leo Watermeier

Publicity Chair: Janet Angelico

Horticulture Chair: Valerie Tang

Nominating Committee: Judy McCloskey, Sylvia Versowski



Landscape Architecture.....Ann Byerly



Landscape architecture encompasses the analysis, planning, design, management, and stewardship of the natural and built environments (ASLA, 2014). Landscape architects lead the stewardship, planning, and design of our built and natural environments. The Society's mission is to advance landscape architecture through advocacy, communication, education, and fellowship (ASLA, 2014). The American Society of Landscape Architecture was founded in 1899; their mission statements given above are wonderful umbrella statements about landscape

architecture.

Ann Kennedy, Master Gardener and Parkway Partner Volunteer, described the LSU program and Landscape Architecture in the New Orleans area. Entry into the LSU curriculum can be at the undergraduate or graduate level; it is noted that a particular major is not needed to enter at the graduate level. She graduated from the program in the 1980's and she said there were 15 graduates in her class. We agreed the LSU program has little focus on the botany of landscaping and directed more toward ecology. Ann reinforced my readings about the curriculum that community input and responses to the landscaping projects were important aspects addressed. Although a landscape architect could work in local landscaping, the majority work for large companies in reclamation projects or landscaping.

Horticultural program at Delgado Community College has a course of

study directed toward propagation and management of gardens or green spaces. Their courses do not transfer to a university program though. It is not a shorter course of study but cheaper than LSU.

Therefore, the rosarian is left on a path of self-discovery and experimentation. The New Orleans Old Rose Garden Society has great influence in directing and encouraging growth of roses.

Reference:

Landscape Architecture available at <http://www.asla.org>

LSU Robert Reich School of Landscape Architecture

302 Design Building
College of Art + Design
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA 70803
Telephone: 225-578-1434
Fax: 225-578-1445
www.landscape.lsu.edu

Harriet Risley Foote (1863-1951).....Ann Byerly

Stephen Scanniello described Harriet Foote's work in the January NOOGRS meeting presentation. She was a nationally recognize rosarian. Marblehead Manor was her parish home where she grew climbers and experimented with growing old roses. At the time, roses had not been widely produced in America; roses were propagated in Europe and Asia. Her gardens began with imported roses. Mrs. Foote was an active member of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society and the English National Rose Society to which she wished for a rose garden be established to proclaim rose success. The American Rose Society gardens are her dream. She later created the gardens for a number of wealthy families including Henry and Clara Ford in Detroit.

Mrs. Foote's Rose Book describes her rose caring techniques from preparing beds, pruning, and selection of roses. She recommended planting climber



roses close to each other to force height growth. Naming roses was a big concern; she recommended drawing a plan of the bed and labeling the roses for future reference. Tags or signs may damage the rose, get mixed up by gardeners, or visitors trampled the garden to read them. Mrs. Foote gardened in an era rejecting chemicals to treat roses; detailed information describes proper preparation of bedding soil. The fourth part of the book lists roses that she had grown successfully. Ten thousand (10,000) varieties of roses were grown in her last garden portrayed in her book. Her book, *Mrs. Foote's Rose*

Book, was printed and distributed in 1948; it is thought to have been delayed due to paper shortage during the world war. This book is available electronically at <http://www.worldcat.org/title/mrs-footes-rose-book/oclc/685220290>; scroll down and click on designated site [HathiTrust](http://www.HathiTrust.org)

Digital Library Full view. The book can be read but not downloaded from this site; I had difficulties with site claiming I could download it for free even after providing a credit card number. First edition copies of the book are available from Amazon.com from \$6.95 to 39.50 plus shipping & handling in hardcover.

Reference:

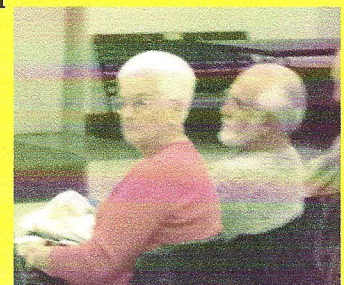
Foote, H. R. (1948). *Mrs. Foote's Rose Book*. Boston: Charles T. Branford Co
Harriet Risley Foote available from <http://tclf.org/pioneer/harriett-risley-foote>
Harriet Risley Foote available from <http://horthistoria.com/?p=139>

Sanchez's Garden Roses

Late Spring 2013, NOOGRS were invited to witness the splendor of Sue and Eddie Sanchez's garden of mostly Austin English roses. The roses were spectacular and the garden immaculate. Fortunately, Sue has the Linens, Lace, and Lunacy website to support her business of selling antique linens upon which she posts Eddie's photographs of roses.



See <http://www.linenslaceandlunacy.com>; scroll to the bottom of the home page to find several pages of rose photographs.



I found this poem on Mrs. Minchinton's website that was written in circa 1910 about a wedding in terms of flowers. It is very charming!!-Margaret DeLord

The Flower Wedding By Mrs. R. M. Minchinton

- What did the Bride look like on her best behaviour?.....Prim-rose
- What did she become when her lover kissed her?.....Blush-rose
- What was the Bridegroom's name and nature?.....Sweet William
- What was his native place and one fault?.....London Pride
- Where did the Bride and Bridegroom come from respectively?...York & Lancaster Rose
- What did his rival call the Bridegroom?.....Cocks Comb (Anemone)
- What were they when his Engagement became known?...Cyclamen
- What did he declare his love to be?.....Everlasting Rose
- What did the Bride steadily refuse to do?.....Marigold
- In what was the Bridegroom's money invested?.....Stocks
- Who drew up the Marriage Settlement?.....Jon-quil
- What were the six Bridesmaids names?.....Violet, Rose, Daisy, Marguerite, Lily & Pansy
- What colour were their dresses?.....Pink
- What colour was the Bridegroom's gloves?.....Lavender
- Who was the best man?.....William Allan Richardson
- With what borrowed flowers was the Church decorated?.....Lent Lilies
- What did the wedding cause in town?.....Aster
- How many came to the wedding?.....Flocks
- How far had the Bridegroom travelled that morning?.....Chain and Mile
- What were the two Breakfast dishes?.....Sweet Pea, Cherry Pie (Heliotrope)
- What were the Bride's parting words?.....Forget-me-not
- What did they throw after the Carriage?.....Ladies Slippers
- What did they call out after the Carriage?.....Speedwell
- What places did they visit and what did they hear?.....Canterbury Bells

Across the Fence..... Laura Querens

*I nod, and her face softens like
a crumpled rose petal being
released."*

*from Sophie Kinsella's book,
I've Got Your Number*

1-Downton Abbey fans can have their own Downton Abbey garden! Weeks Roses is introducing their "Downton Abby" collection of roses. Anna's Promise" is the first one. Named after stalwart lady's maid, Anna Bates, it is a copper-toned grandiflora. Stay tuned to Weeks Roses for more introductions. Now you can have your own English garden!

2-Weeks Roses has other introductions for 2014: Good as Gold, You're the One (a miniature), Jump for Joy, Happy Go Lucky, and honoring one of America's great ladies, Coretta Scott King. Named to honor

Mrs. King who valiantly carried on the work of her husband, this lovely rose has a coral/orange-toned blossom and is disease resistant.

3-Mark your calendar for November 2014. Heritage Rose Society is having its annual meeting here in New Orleans. To be led by Stephen Scanniello, it will be a great opportunity for us to get involved with the organization as well as learn more about our treasured French Quarter and more about antique roses. Membership is \$35.00 for an individual/family, and \$25 for 65 & over/family. It is a bargain. Stay tuned for more information or contact Peggy Martin.

4-Shop for Valentines Day! Pandora Jewelry store has rose charms and rings. Shop for their Black Onyx Rose ring and charms: Eve's Addiction, Wanda's Garden, or the Pink Blooming Rose charm. Pandora has opened up a new store at Lakeside or shop at from your armchair at Pandora.net. Get a great gift for your sweetie (or yourself!).

5-Our own Leo Watermeier and Helga Brichet, past president of the World Federation of Rose Societies, are leading a trip to Italy to see the roses of the old country. For eight days in May, they will be seeing garden tours in Tuscany, Umbria, Chianti, and other regions. Contact Leo for information.

6-Cystic Fibrosis (CF) uses the rose as their symbol since 1965. Here is the story of how it came about: The story of 65 Roses® began in 1965, when a woman by the name of Mary G. Weiss joined the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation as one of its many volunteers. Mary was a very passionate and dedicated volunteer, as her three young boys had cystic fibrosis. She wanted to do everything in her power to help find a cure. On a typical day, Mary began her routine of calling family, friends, and community members to tell them about CF and ask them for help in her and the Foundation's quest to find a cure for the disease.

After several calls, Mary's 4-year old son, Richard, who had been listening to her every word, came into the room. "I know what you're working for," said the young child, startling his mother. Richard did not yet know he had CF. "What am I working for, Richard," she asked, to which the boy responded, "You are working for 65 Roses." Speechless, Mary went over to him and tenderly hugged her young son. He could not see the tears streaming down her face as she said softly, "Yes, Richard, I am working for 65 Roses."

From that day forward, "65 Roses" has become what children on all ages often call their disease, since the words are much easier to say that "cystic fibrosis."



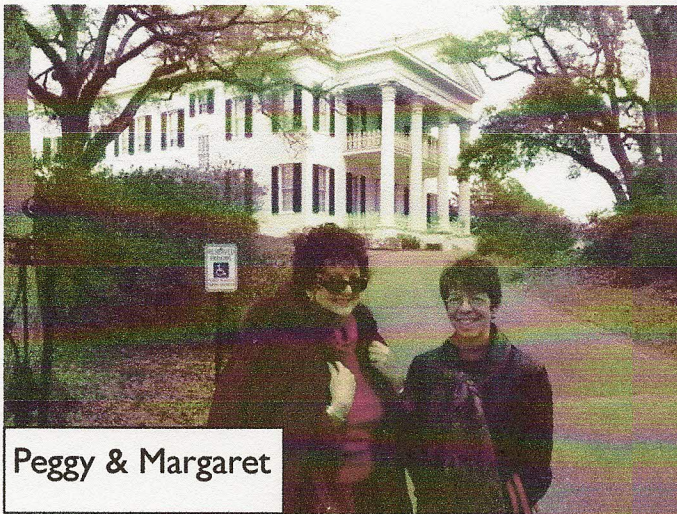
Cabrini Antique Rose Garden in French Quarter

Cabrini Antique Rose Garden Jon Kemp

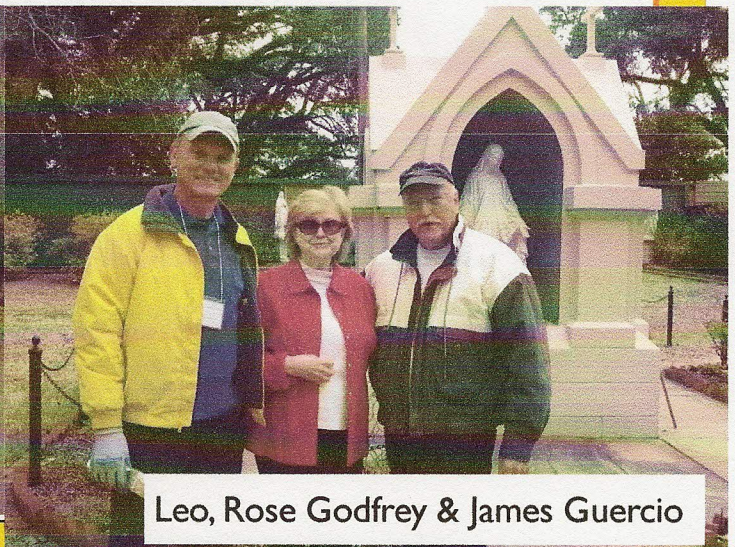
At the February 2014 NOOGRS meeting, Ms. Kemp received approval to post a the following sign at the Cabrini Antique Rose Garden: Cabrini Antique Rose Garden maintained by NOOGRS "Even as we preserve our architectural history, we save our horticultural heritage". The

park is a public park and accessible 24/7. It is located at intersections of Burgundy, Barracks, and Dauphine streets. Ms. Kemp lives in a house on one side of the garden and is willing to come out and tour the garden with you.

Pictures from Gulf District Mid-Winter Workshop



Peggy & Margaret

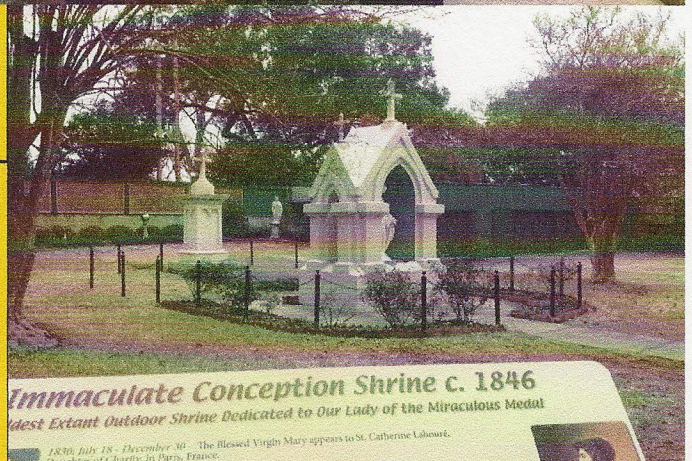


Leo, Rose Godfrey & James Guercio

**ARS Gulf District Mid-Winter Workshop
Margaret Granier**

The theme of the Mid-Winter Workshop of the Gulf District of the ARS held in Natchez, Mississippi, on February 7 and 8 was "Growing Better Roses." It was gratifying to find that the requisite presentations on diseases and insect pests put "organic" solutions first instead of last and stressed minimal chemical exposure. Dr. Mark Windham of the University of Tennessee described the field testing being done in Tennessee and also at the LSU AgCenter in Hammond to locate disease resistant cultivars and testing in Tennessee of methods to control rose rosette disease without chemicals. Leo Watermeier of our club gave the lead-off presentation, "The Old Garden Rose Collection at Armstrong Park" and it was well-received and much complimented. Leo also did some extra-curricular good will work by

helping with rose trimming at St. Mary's Basilica, a local church. As always, the photographs were breathtaking, useful new ideas were abounding and old ones were reinforced. Don Adlong recommends growing roses on Fortuniana rootstock. And the food was excellent. Jim Mills of K&M Roses showed new varieties being introduced this year; beautiful roses. Reminder to have bud unions between 3-6" above soil and loose Velcro to tie roses to stakes. Having a rose-gardening workshop in February, especially a February following the January we had this year when everything is brown and bleak, might seem like bad timing, but in fact it provided just the boost I needed to start thinking ahead to April green instead of February brown.

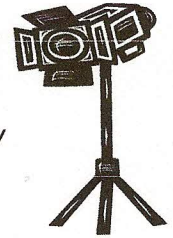


Historian Leo Watermeier took the photographs



Marilyn Wellan & Baxter Williams

Spotlight on ——— Maman CochetMargaret Granier



Maman Cochet



White Maman Cochet

The custom of naming roses after women is ancient and obvious. The soft colors and texture of rose petals invite comparison to the ladies and maybe so do the thorns. When a hybridizer names a new rose after his wife, you know it has to be good. But when he names it after his Mother, you know it has to be REALLY good. 'Maman Cochet,' introduced in 1893 by the famous and prolific French rose breeder family of Cochet, is a good example of this logic. The soft pink flowers of this Tea are an elegant perfect tea rose shape with the high, tight center and curled, pointed petals. The blossoms are large, fragrant and hold up well for cutting. To top it all, the plant is large-growing, vigorous and free-blooming. The American Rose Society *Encyclopedia of Roses* says " 'Maman Cochet' and its sports represent the highest achievements of which the Tea roses are capable. Not

only are they supremely elegant and prolific, they also thrive on neglect to such an extent that they frequently turn up in abandoned gardens and old cemeteries, flowering and flourishing with nothing to sustain them." Indeed, if 'Maman' can be said to have a fault, it is that is TOO flourishing, capable of producing a very large bush if not pruned. The white sport of 'Maman Cochet,' called, logically enough, 'White Maman Cochet' is in my experience even more vigorous and prolific than 'Maman.' Her flowers start creamy white edged in pink, blushing with age to become all pink. Like 'Maman Cochet,' 'White Maman Cochet' is also a fine cut flower, especially suited to old-fashioned bouquets.



Dear Rose,

I am always hearing about the important of "pH" for gardening and the Ag Extension Service wants me to send them soil samples to test for \$10.00 apiece. Doesn't fertilizing put everything into the soil that the rose needs to grow and bloom well? Also, why isn't it "Ph" instead of "pH"? My grade school teacher taught me that the first letter is capitalized, not the second.

—SEEKER OF KNOWLEDGE

Dear SEEKER:

pH has nothing to do with the richness of soil, although it definitely has a bearing on the fertility of it. The term refers to

the acidity or alkalinity (sometimes referred to as "sweetness") of the soil and it depends on the combination of minerals and organic matter in the soil. The more acid the soil, the lower the pH; the more alkaline, the higher the pH. The optimum pH for roses is a range of 6.2 to 6.7. pH is important for roses because if the pH of the soil is too low or too high, it has the effect of locking up the nutrients in the soil so that the plant cannot use them well. A soil could thereby be loaded with useful minerals and the poor plants unable to utilize them. Fortunately, correcting pH is very simply accomplished by adding balancing elements to the soil: lime to raise pH or peat to lower it. The catch is that it may not stay corrected. Using fertilizer, especially organic fertilizers

which tend to be acidic, will change the pH over time, usually lowering it. Ironically, our use of good rich compost might lead to our roses going hungry at their own party. Hence the emphasis on monitoring soil pH for most efficient use of fertilizers and best effect on blooming and plant vigor. That little bit of tweaking could make the difference between a so-so garden and a really smashing one.

—Rose

P.S. Rose is not ashamed to admit that her knowledge of some subjects is limited. One of those subjects is organic chemistry. Consequently she has no idea why "pH" is not spelled "Ph."



Green Manure..... Nancy Carollo

No, this isn't a St. Patrick's Day joke! **Green manure** is another name for cover crops. These fast-growing plants are dug back into the soil after several months of growing. They benefit your garden the same way animal manure does but in plant form. Cover crops revitalize the soil and improve plant growth by loosening the soil, attracting beneficial insects, capturing nitrogen from the air, and making phosphorus available. And, for an added bonus, cover crops suppress weeds and disrupt weed growing cycles. Planting cover crops, especially in a new garden before your roses go in, will improve whatever type of soil present by adding plenty of organic matter.

Using cover crops take some planning. Choosing the right cover crop and timing the planting are the keys to success. There are many types of cover crops but not all work well in southern gardens. Traditional cover crops are annual ryegrass, winter rye, winter wheat, oats, white clover, sweet clover, hairy vetch, and buckwheat. Some of the best choices for our area are **crimson clover** and **winter peas** for winter plantings; while **buckwheat** is a good choice for a summer cover crop when the roses are dormant during summer heat. A word of caution, it's important to turn the buckwheat plants into the soil before they go to seed.

Cover crop seeds will probably be easier to find at a local feed store rather than at garden centers. Buying locally means you're likely to find a regionally adapted variety. However, there are many online resources to purchase cover crop seeds. It's best to buy seed-grade grains rather than just feed-grade because feed-grade seeds may contain weed seeds.

Your choice of cover crop will determine when to plant the seeds. Most need 30 to 80 days before turndown. To plant, just rake the soil to loosen the surface and broadcast seeds onto the soil. Aim for about two seeds per square inch. Then watch as these fast-growing plants turn into fertilizer for free.

ROSE WEBSITES..... Margaret DeLord



2014 – A new year with the New Orleans Old Garden Rose Society. Lots to do, lots to learn, and lots to dream! Check out these websites for some ideas for your garden.

1-www.thegardeningdiary.com - The Gardening Diary is written by a rose lover named Teresa who lives in zone 5B and has about 175 roses and their companions. She co-hosts a weekly podcast on roses called [Rose Chat Radio](#), and you can find the link on her website. She gardens and her husband builds – he even built her a fabulous potting shed. Check it out. Also check out

the videos of her garden for great ideas. She even writes about the Peggy Martin rose! 2-www.worldrose.org - The World Federation of Rose Societies (WFRS) was established in 1968 to hold international rose conferences and rose research. It started with 8 countries including the USA and has grown to 39 countries. The American Rose Society is our representative. Click on [Prize Winners](#) and click on [Gardens of Excellence](#) to see many wonderful rose gardens of the world – beautiful!! The WFRS will be hosting 2014 regional conventions in Barcelona, Spain and

Hyderabad, India. If every country joined the WFRS maybe roses could bring world peace!! 3-www.oldroses.nl - Old Roses website is written by Monique Nuijten from the Netherlands, and yes, it is in English! The website is simply done with beautiful photographs. She goes into great detail about her roses, her list of rose books, and her tours of rose gardens. She is very knowledgeable. It so interesting to read about gardening in the Netherlands and other countries.

**NEW ORLEANS OLD
GARDEN ROSE
SOCIETY**

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**Newsletter
submissions:**

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gmail.com**

**[www.neworleans-
oldroses.com](http://www.neworleans-oldroses.com)**



**233 million
roses were
grown for 2014
Valentine's Day**

**THE NEW ORLEANS OLD GARDEN ROSE SOCIETY
MEETS AT JOHN CALVIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, FELLOWSHIP HALL
4201 TRANSCONTINENTAL
METAIRIE, LA 70006**

The New Orleans Old Garden Rose Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving and fostering Old Garden Roses. Our mission is to spread the word about old roses, to return old roses to the gardens of the New Orleans area and to preserve them for generations to come. Membership is open to anyone interested in old garden roses. Annual dues are \$25.00. We meet on the first Tuesday of the month except July & August at 7 p.m. The church is 2 blocks from West Esplanade between Fairfield and Glendale. Turn onto Glendale to get to the parking lot. The Fellowship Hall is located toward the back. For more information visit our website:

www.neworleans-oldroses.com.

Newsletter Committee: Ann Byerly, Co-Editor; Margaret Ganier, Co-Editor; Margaret Delord, Laura Querens, Nancy Carolla, Janet Angelico, and Leo Watermeier.

Contributors: Peggy Martin and committee members.

Next newsletter deadline: May 15th for June 1 newsletter

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March 11th next meeting date!