



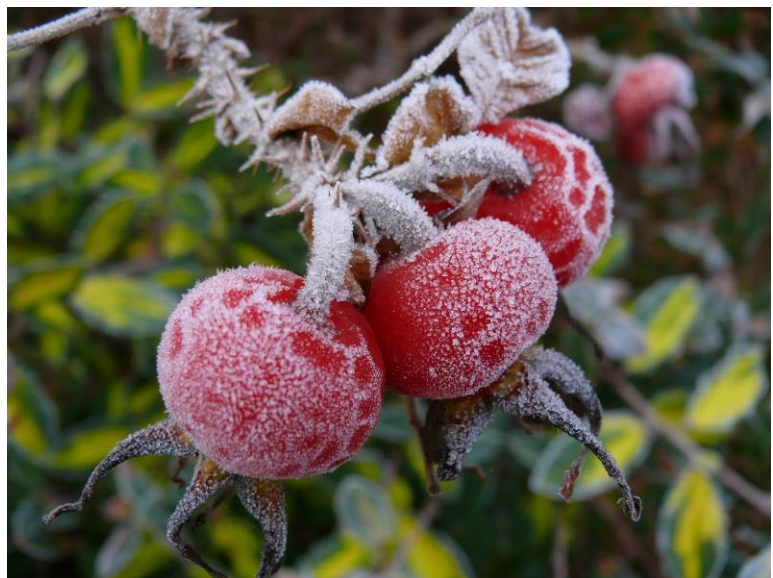
Old Texas Rose

Vol 21, Winter 2014

Greetings Fellow Rose Rustlers ---

Message from the Chair — Kathy Hyatt

As I sit here to write this I'm listening to the TV meteorologist's predictions of ice/snow for tonight. Having a job that requires working outside in all conditions is not pleasant with weather like this. Bitter biting wind coupled with driving rain and temperatures in the 30s makes for one nasty day! And yet just 3 days ago it was sunny and in the high 60s! It has certainly been a crazy start to the New Year weather-wise here in southeast Texas!!!



On the subject of the New Year, I smile to myself when I think of all the resolutions I've made over the years. Many have pertained to my gardens and gardening habits. The one

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which is really laughable is the one made about four years ago. I decided that I would no longer buy a plant until I had a specific place to plant it. Three guesses how well that resolution turned out!!! At the moment I have approximately 50 black pots of various sizes that wrap around the back and side of my house. I have everything from roses, to trees, to shrubs, to herbs and others too numerous to list. All these poor plants are waiting to be freed, to be able to have their roots stretch out into rich, wonderful soil, feel the warm sun on their leaves and little flower faces. OK, now I'm feeling really guilty and over-dramatic, too. The point is, my good intentions did not hold together in the reality of my day-to-day life. When I saw a new plant, my thoughts ran to dreams of how it would look growing in my garden. I did not trouble myself with the

reality that there wasn't a place to put it, that it would require considerable work to expand a flower bed to accommodate the newcomer and that my time was very limited. No, what I thought was "ooo, it's pretty, I don't have one of these, I may never be able to find another one of these, it's such a reasonable price"...and back to "ooo, it's pretty." So you see, I've got a lot of issues to work on if I want to curb this tendency to bring home "just one more plant". Maybe this year will be different...but I doubt it. Good luck to all of you on your New Year's resolutions. As for me, I think I'll resolve to tackle the fire ant beds...changing my plant hoarding tendencies will have to wait until next year. Happy 2014 to all! *Kathy*

The Website Peek —

RUSTLED ROSES ... and related rosarian revelations by Ink Mendelsohn

It's Bill Welch speaking: "Old roses don't need all that much attention. They have to have some sun, and you have to keep the critters from browsing. Of course, you don't have many browsers in Washington, D.C." He lingers over the thought ever so tantalizingly and adds, "unless you count the lobbyists." ...

Want to read a little more?

Go to: <http://www.texasroserustlers.com/rustler-wisdom/>

- Select the first bullet under "More". *ENJOY!*



What?

Heirloom Rose Event and Book Signing

Where?

Ace Hardware, 10720 Kuykendahl Rd.,
The Woodlands, TX 77381

When?

Sunday, February 23, Noon – 3:00 PM

Mike Shoup of the Antique Rose Emporium will be signing copies of his book, "The Empress of the Garden" and also answering questions on planting, pruning and care of old garden roses. Representatives from Nature's Way Resources and Microlife Fertilizer will also be on hand with samples and information about their products.

Farewell

Faith Bickley, Secretary

As I prepare for an April move to Pennsylvania, I want to express my appreciation for the many years of friendship and shared passion for our old roses. TRR has and will continue to hold a very special place in my heart. Mom and I had so many wonderful times with all of you. I have high hopes of coming back for a meeting each year.

The Texas Rose Rustlers is a very special organization like no other I have ever been in. So often, garden organizations abound in structure and rules, even with requirements for membership. These are fine and good, but how refreshing to find an organization that seems more like a group of friends getting together to delve into their shared interest. We have heard so many good speakers, gone to so many interesting places, and most of all learned from each other.



Faith in her element — in a cemetery with a rose!

I want to thank each and every one of you for the special times that will always go with me wherever I go. I am ready to move near my family and enjoy the experience of learning how to garden and grow my roses in a new area. Hugs to all of you! — *Faith*

Welcome New Members

Welcome to our newest members:

Shirley Kelly, Anchorage, Alaska;

Dixie Boatman, Marlin, Texas; and

Will Cooks, Marlin, Texas.

If you have any questions about the organization and/or the meetings, feel free to email thetexasroserustlers@gmail.com. We look forward to meeting you at TRR events.



What do Rose Colors Mean?

Are you picking a bouquet for Valentine's Day? Or maybe this Spring? Well, those bouquets may mean more than you think!

- ♥ **Red Roses** proclaim "I love you." They are the ultimate symbol of romantic love and enduring passion.
- ♥ **Yellow Roses** indicate friendship and freedom.
- ♥ **Pale Pink Roses** connote grace, gentleness, and gratitude.
- ♥ **Light Pink Roses** express fun and happiness, a joy to behold.
- ♥ **Deep Pink Roses** say "Thank you." They have also come to be associated with the fight against breast cancer.
- ♥ **Lilac Roses** indicate the sender has fallen in love at first sight with the recipient and is enchanted.
- ♥ **White Roses** symbolize truth and innocence. They also send other messages: "I miss you" and "You're heavenly."
- ♥ **Peach Roses** speak of appreciation and gratitude.
- ♥ **Coral Roses** express one thing with their passionate color: Desire.
- ♥ **Orange Roses** communicate enthusiasm and desire on the part of the sender.



A Call For Volunteers!

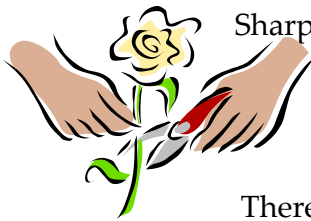
- What?* MARCH MART
- Where?* Mercer Arboretum And Botanic Gardens
22306 Aldine Westfield Rd., Humble, TX
- When?* Thursday, Friday, Saturday
March 13-15, Hours Vary By Day



We will once again volunteer to help the Rose Group sell and provide information on roses for the Houston area. We will need 3-4 people for the main sale on Friday and Saturday and two for the Thursday sale. If interested, please contact Kathy Hyatt (rosediva52@gmail.com) for further information.

Parking passes and wrist bands are required so please sign up by **February 18**.

February is Time to Prune Roses



Sharpen your shears and don your armor because it's time to prune roses. In Texas, most roses are pruned around February 14 – now I don't know if that is the perfect day or if it is just easy to remember. Valentines and roses just go so well together, you just won't forget the date.

There are so many ways to prune, but here are a few tried and true rules and just some that amaze me:

- ♥ Your shears, lopper and pruning saw should be sharp and well-oiled. **Your hands and arms will thank you!**
- ♥ You should be dressed in clothing that will protect your skin. **Have band-aids nearby anyway!**
- ♥ Remove dead wood. **Yes, the canes that are the hardest to reach!**
- ♥ You want to prune just above an outward-facing bud. Buds aren't always easy to see. Sometimes they look like a small reddish dot. Sometimes they look like a smile. You want to cut above an outward-facing bud at approximately a 45-degree angle, so that the upper point of the cut is about one-quarter inch above the bud. In other words, your cut is slightly higher and at an angle from the outward-facing bud. You're pruning in the direction that you want new growth to go: angled up and facing out. **I'm sorry, I just find a bud, aim, and cut – I figure out of every 20 canes, I'll get a couple right!**
- ♥ Now comes cleanup. Remove any leaves left on the bush and all leaves that have fallen to the ground. **Hmmm! Not at my house.**



How not to dress while pruning roses in the winter!

I'm having a little fun with this as I don't believe rose pruning is an exact science and it certainly shouldn't be stressful. If you would like to learn a bit more, try Faith Bickley's article "Pruning Antique Roses" on the [TRR website](http://www.trr.org/) or attend one of the below classes. We are lucky to have many individuals willing to share their knowledge of pruning roses!

- ♥ **Saturday, February 1.** "Rose Pruning Workshop," Fort Bend County Saturday with the Master Gardeners, Fort Bend County Agrilife Extension Office, 1402 Band Road, Suite 100, Rosenberg. 9 - 11 am. <http://www.fbmng.com/>.

- ♥ **Thursday, February 13.** Rose Pruning Demonstration by Houston Rose Society Rosarians, 7:30 pm, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church parking lot, 1819 Heights Blvd, Houston (enter on W19th near Yale St.). Free. www.houstonrose.org.
- ♥ **Saturday, February 16.** Learn the how, when and where to prune to keep your roses at their best year round with Gaye Hammond at [The Arbor Gate](#).

2014 TRR Meetings — Save These Dates!!!

Audrey McMurray, Program Chair



May 2-4, Friday, Saturday, Sunday

TRR's annual Spring Symposium will revolve around Rose Dango in Chambersville and Farmer's Branch.

Details to be announced via email, the website, and the newsletter.

Early details can be found here: <http://www.rosedango.com/>



July 12th, Saturday

The annual Rookie Rustlers' Meeting will be at Mercer Arboretum again this year. Get those Lotto Plants ready!



Fall Cutting Exchange

To Be Announced.



Texas Rose Rustlers Board Members

Chairman.....	Kathy Hyatt
Program Chairman	Audrey McMurray
Historian/Communications	Becky Smith
Secretary	Faith Bickley
Treasurer/Membership.....	Flora Tiedt
Old Texas Rose Editor	Carolyn Stracik
Molly and John Buenrostro.....	Hospitality