

Rose Rustle – 1992

By Joe Woodard

This was the 13th Annual Rose Rustle usually held in October/November in South Central Texas. I missed the first rustle in 1980 and the one in Victoria, Texas in 1988, otherwise, I have made them all. On the first rustle there was one car load. This year there must have been a total of 40 cars, pick-ups, vans, and station wagons. Missouri and Louisiana were also represented. We met at the Sam Houston State Park in San Felipe, about 50 miles west of Houston – 297 miles from Dallas.

San Felipe was the Colonial Capital of Texas from 1824 – 1836. This was the location of the original colony that Sam Houston founded in 1821.

Helen decided to pass on this trip and attend the Fall Festival two weeks later. So I hitched a ride with Don and Pat Rhines. We left our house at 4:30 pm after they both got off work. We arrived at our motel in Seal, Texas around 10:00 pm.

There were two people that were made very happy at the rustle. The Jorgensens provided two container roses of the found variety ‘Margaret Sharpe’ (1980 rustle at New Braunfels) for Margaret. Marion Brandes brought me a mature blooming plant of ‘Joe’s Rose’, found on the rustle last year at the Catholic Cemetery in Schulenburg. In addition to ‘Joe’s Rose’, Bobbie McKenna (Houston) brought me a cream-colored unknown rose in bloom, found at the Hilingdon Cemetery.

The first order of business was the cutting exchange. People brought their cuttings in Zip lock baggies wrapped in a damp paper towel. I took an ice chest full of some 100 plus cuttings (twenty different varieties). I brought the ice chest full of cuttings home. There were 18 varieties of roses plus three perennials. I went all the way to San Felipe to get one cutting from Belinda Pavageau, who also lives in Dallas.

This year there were about 70 2-3 gallon containers of roses (most in bloom) that were distributed by a drawing. I checked with the Brandes’ on who brought the wonderful collection of container roses. They were David Allen, Friendswood; David Caton, Houston; and Marion Brandes, Huffman. Two flats of cuttings of ‘Old Blush’ and ‘Cramoisi Superieur’ were donated by Mike Shoup of Independence.

Those from the Dallas-Fort Worth area attending include:

- Don & Pat Rhines, Sachse
- Michael Johnson, Plano
- Debra Lakeneu, Carrollton
- Joanne Donnelly, Garland
- Mr. & Mrs. R. Kirk, Haltom City
- Mr. & Mrs. G.H. King, Fort Worth
- Belinda Pavageau, Charles and Dominique Inge, Joe Woodward, Mary Trinkle, Frances and Marion Brandes-Huffman, Dallas
- Liz Druitt, Washington
- Deanna Krause, Pasadena

- Mike Shoup, Independence
- Mrs. Fred Speck, Rock Springs
- Margaret Sharpe, David Caton, Rosemarie Donnelly, Bobbie McKenna, Houston

There must have been cuttings of at least 100 varieties from which to choose. Belinda Pavageau said that she brought home cuttings of 36 different varieties.

After we had lunch sitting on the base of Sam Houston's statue, we started the rustle. We stopped at four locations in San Felipe, Pattison and Wallis. We took cuttings of two unidentified old noisettes. One family had roses taken from cuttings by a Czech family 100 years ago.

On our road out of Independence (Hwy 6) we kept seeing a series of blue boxes slightly larger than a school lunch pail hanging in trees about every mile. We finally figured out that these were collection boxes for killer bees moving north from Mexico.

Don asked if I would like to stop at the Hillsboro Cemetery where he had rustled on another occasion. We found roses that were suffering from an apparent long drought – none in bloom.

Altogether a very successful rustle, after we traveled over 600 miles. Kudos go to the Texas Rose Rustlers for all of the arrangements – especially Marion and Frances Brandes and Margaret Sharpe.