

Preserving historic roses is the common goal that unites members of the HRF. In our second look at nurseries that contribute to historic rose preservation, we find operations both large and small playing a role in educating the rose-growing public about old roses, and in preserving through propagation. Not all of these nurseries can maintain large rose collections, but each in their way ensures the survival of some varieties by putting them in the hands of the average gardener. Some are able to help in the distribution of rare roses from great collections like Sangerhausen and l'Hay-les-Roses, while others strive to select good cultivars that succeed in specific climates. The editors encourage you to support all of these efforts. Without nurseries like these, the goals of our organization could never be met.

—Gregg Lowery



### Angel Gardens—Florida, USA

**ADDRESS:**  
P.O. Box 1106  
Alachua, FL 32616

**OPEN:**  
By appointment

**CONTACT:**  
Pam Greenwald  
352-359-1133  
[www.angelgardens.com](http://www.angelgardens.com)

Pam and James Greenwald began their journey into the world of old roses nearly 20 years ago. Their collection of some 800 cultivars reflects the climatic demands of rose-growing in North Central Florida, and their commitment to an organic approach to gardening. Along with a refreshing selection of modern varieties, including many Griffith Buck introductions, they offer a splendid selection of Teas, Chinas, Noisettes, Polyanthas, Hybrid Musks, and Ramblers, all well suited to the humid southern clime. Significant are their collections of other old groups like Bourbons and HPs, which while limited are well selected for the South.

Plants are own-root grown and organically produced, available in quarts and gallons, both at the nursery and shipped inside and outside the United States. Large containers are available at the nursery, where classes are held and the Greenwalds' garden design services are headquartered.

**AREAS OF ROSE PRESERVATION:** Hybrid Giganteas, including Alister Clark hybrids; rare Tea roses like 'Souvenir de François Goullain' (Guillot, 1889), 'Comtesse Festetics Hamilton' (Nabonnand, 1892), and 'Rose Nabonnand' (Nabonnand, 1883). Foundling and mystery roses are of particular interest, as many have been collected in or near Florida.

### Bierkreek—Netherlands

Bierkreek, owned by a group of Dutch nurserymen, boasts a list of more than 1,300 rose varieties, many of which are old and rare. In keeping with Lowcountry traditions they ship their roses all over the world, grafted onto *Rosa canina* and *R. rubiginosa* (*eglanteria*). They are a regulated organic grower, following the strict guidelines of the European Economic Union. Many of their roses have been further studied for cold hardiness in a small test garden in northern Sweden. The popularity of this nursery in Europe in recent years may account for its stellar rating on HelpMeFind, the online rose encyclopedia.

While Bierkreek, unlike so many old rose nurseries, did not grow its rose business from passionate rose collection, it has rapidly ascended to a position of note, having received help and encouragement from Cliff Orent of EuroDesert Roses, and others. Their collections of Hybrid Perpetuals and Bourbons show that they are gathering many of the rare roses being released today from Sangerhausen and l'Hay-les-Roses. Species feature prominently and include such gems as the Canina hybrids of Rudolf Geschwind, 'Crème', 'Freya', 'Griseldis', and 'Walküre'.

**AREAS OF ROSE PRESERVATION:** Species roses, including rare hybrids like *Rosa hugonis* 'Dr. E. M. Mills' (Van Fleet) and *R. hugonis* 'Headleyensis', Lutea hybrid 'El Areana' (Geschwind), *R. × moyesii* 'Sealing Wax', and the Setigera hybrids 'Eurydice', 'Forstmeister's Heim', 'Nympe Tepla', 'Ovid', 'Tolstoi', and 'Virago' from Geschwind and Böhm. Rare HPs including 'Henry Irving' (Conard & Jones), 'Mlle. Honorine Duboc', 'Maurice Lepelletier', and 'Monsieur de Morand'.

**ADDRESS:**  
Zevenhofstedenstraat 9  
IJzendijke, Zeeland 4515RK  
Netherlands

**OPEN:**  
Friday and Saturday afternoons  
by appointment

**CONTACT:**  
06-12 90 50 85  
[info@bierkreek.nl](mailto:info@bierkreek.nl)  
[www.bierkreek.nl](http://www.bierkreek.nl)

OPPOSITE LEFT: 'Mme Desiree Giraud' from EuroDesert Roses (photo by Cliff Orent)

BELOW: 'Forstmeister's Heim', Bierkreek (photo by Étienne Bouret)



*Countryside Roses*—Mississippi, USA

**ADDRESS:**  
5016 Menge Avenue  
Pass Christian, MS 39571

**OPEN:**  
Saturdays, 9–3, April and May  
By appointment

**CONTACT:**  
Lisa Pflug  
228-452-2697  
[www.countrysideroses.com](http://www.countrysideroses.com)  
[mail@countrysideroses.com](mailto:mail@countrysideroses.com)

Lisa Pflug has been specializing in roses for the Deep South for the past decade. Her garden and nursery were devastated by the wind and storm surge following Hurricane Katrina, but Lisa rebuilt and continues to offer a superb collection of Teas, Chinas, Noisettes, Polyanthas, and a number of modern roses including HTs like ‘Dame de Coeur’ and ‘Lady Ursula’ that are perfectly suited to the humid, warm climate. Like many small growers she must split her time between her job and the passion of growing and sharing old roses. Some 300 varieties read like a classic list of great old roses for the South.

**AREAS OF ROSE PRESERVATION:** Bermuda Mystery Roses, including “Emmie Gray,” “Red Smith’s Parish,” “Spice,” “Vincent Godsiff,” and “Brightside Cream,” which is rarely seen on American lists. Excellent Polyanthas, including ‘Marie Daly’, ‘Marie-Jeanne’, and ‘Flocon de Neige’.

*Der Rosenmeister, Antique & Modern Roses*—New York, USA

**ADDRESS:**  
190 Seven Mile Drive  
Ithaca, NY 14850

**OPEN:**  
April 13 through October 12,  
after 4 pm by appointment

**CONTACT:**  
Leon Ginenthal  
607-273-8610  
[www.derrosenmeister.com](http://www.derrosenmeister.com)

A very rare breed of nursery, Der Rosenmeister specializes in cold-hardy, disease-resistant roses for USDA zones 4 and 5. It is located in the midst of the Finger Lakes district of New York. While this nursery does not currently ship plants, it provides that indispensable resource, a local nursery with a well-chosen list of varieties, many of which are old roses, others of which are rarely seen.

The nursery, open after work hours when Leon finishes his real job to follow his passion, grew from a single cutting of ‘Dr. Walter Van Fleet’ gleaned from the garden of Leon’s mother. Guarded by two cheerful, greeting dogs who eat Japanese beetles, the garden boasts a collection of hardy Geschwind roses, many of which, like ‘Leopold Ritter’ and ‘Formeister’s Heim’, are rare even among nurseries that serve a nationwide audience.

**AREAS OF ROSE PRESERVATION:** Old shrub roses and Eglantines; ‘Edith Bellen-den’ (Penzance), ‘Geschwind’s Nordlandrose’, ‘Prinz Hirzeprinzchen’, ‘Double Blush’ (Spinossissima), *R. nitida* ‘Metis’; Rugosas, including ‘Lac Majeau’ (Bugnet); Ramblers like ‘Evangeline’ and ‘Isabella Skinner’.

*EuroDesert Roses*—Morongo Valley, California, USA

Cliff Orent has created an astonishing collection of roses in the desert of Southern California near Palm Springs. Nearly 3,500 varieties grace his 5-acre garden overlooking a high desert landscape of sagebrush and cacti. His nursery, EuroDesert Roses, was built on roses he imported from around the world, and boasts 700 varieties that are available nowhere else in America.

Listing hundreds of modern roses that excite rose exhibitors with their rarity and beauty, Cliff’s own soft spot is found in Hybrid Perpetuals, Polyanthas, and Hybrid Musks. This rare resource is greatly underappreciated and deserving of support. The average rose gardener can easily create her own rare collection of old roses simply by placing an order with EuroDesert.

**AREAS OF PRESERVATION:** It is possible that the largest collection of HPs in North America now resides in Cliff Orent’s garden. These include ‘Abbé Bramérel’ (Guillot, 1871), ‘Comtesse O’Gorman’ (Lévêque, 1888), ‘Directeur Alphand’ (Lévêque, 1883), ‘Dr. Hurta’ (Geschwind, 1867), ‘Lady Overtoun’ (Dickson, 1907), ‘La Sirène’ (Souper et Notting, 1867), ‘Mme Desirée Giraud’ (Van Houtte, 1854), ‘Schôn Ingeborg’ (Kiese, 1921), and ‘Vicomesse de Vezins’ (Gautreau, 1967).

**ADDRESS:**  
P.O. Box 760  
Morongo Valley, CA 92256

**OPEN:**  
By appointment

**CONTACT:**  
Cliff Orent  
760-408-5151  
[info@EuroDesertRoses.com](mailto:info@EuroDesertRoses.com)  
[www.eurodesertroses.com](http://www.eurodesertroses.com)



**OPPOSITE:** ‘Russelliana’ at Der Rosenmeister Nursery (photo by Renate Schmitt)

**LEFT:** ‘Abbé Bramérel’

**ABOVE:** ‘Lady Overtoun’ from EuroDesert Roses (photos by Cliff Orent)

*La Campanella*—Padova, Italy**ADDRESS:**

Via Campanella 3  
Cervarese S. Croce  
Padova I-35030  
Italy

**OPEN:**

Monday through Saturday, 9–12  
and 2–6  
Sundays, mid April through  
May, 9 am to 12 noon  
by appointment

**CONTACT:**

Anna Maria Sgarabottolo  
+39 049 9910905  
[www.vivaiolacampanella.com](http://www.vivaiolacampanella.com)  
[info@vivaiolacampanella.com](mailto:info@vivaiolacampanella.com)

Since the closing of Walter Branchi's nursery in Orvieto, the old rose world has suffered a great loss of a resource in Italy. It is more than heartening to know the breadth and rarity of the collection of old roses offered by Anna Maria Sgarabottolo near Padua. This superb nursery provides a rich cross section of old rose classes, from Teas and Chinas to the once-blooming Old Europeans.

Sgarabottolo's nursery in northern Italy thrives in a climate that allows the best from this wide range of plant types. Her selections of old Ramblers, Chinas, and particularly of Gallicas merit much attention. The nursery offers events that educate about old roses and their culture. American gardeners will drool over the lists of very rare varieties, unfortunately in vain, as roses may not be imported from Italy. Our European members have the great fortune of being able to order from this splendid nursery.

**AREAS OF ROSE PRESERVATION:** Without question the collection of Gallicas at La Campanella is most remarkable. Just a small listing of those that may not be grown elsewhere commercially include: 'Adele Courtois' (circa 1842), 'Adele Heu' (Vibert, 1816), 'Anacreon' (Vibert, 1836), "Aurelia Barieri" (foundling), 'Belle Galathée' (Descemet, pre-1815), and 'Catinat' (Vibert, 1838).

*Greenmantle Nursery*—Garberville, California, USA

A quiet and very old-fashioned nursery, operated with love by two gardeners who have made their life in plants, Greenmantle has two components: a nursery of antique fruit varieties and a nursery of old roses, the latter run by its creator, Marissa Fishman, for about 25 years. This nursery is

purely organic, and all roses are grown on their own roots. Meticulous work has been done to ensure that the roses are free of rose mosaic virus.

The collection of roses covers most old rose groups and reflects the tastes of an observant and careful judge of healthy plants. It is notable for its species roses, which include several that are rarely seen in cultivation, and offers Gallicas, Albas, Damasks, Eglantines, Chinas, Teas, Noisettes, Rugosas, and much more.

**AREAS OF ROSE PRESERVATION:** Rare species roses like *Rosa acicularis* 'Aurora', *R. ecae* 'Golden Chersonese', *R. hemisphaerica*, *R. primula*, *R. setipoda*, *R. × hardii*, and *R. stellata mirifica*, show the distinctive nature of this collection.

**ADDRESS:**

3010 Ettersburg Road  
Garberville, CA 95542-9678

**OPEN:**

Mail-order, not open to the public

**CONTACT:**

Marissa Fishman  
707-986-7504  
[www.greenmantlenursery.com](http://www.greenmantlenursery.com)

**OPPOSITE PAGE:** Archi Giardino at La Campanella (photo by Anna Maria Sgarabottolo)

**ABOVE:** *Rosa stellata mirifica*, Greenmantle Nursery (photo by Étienne Bouret)

**BELOW LEFT:** 'Mrs. T. S. Wright'

**BELOW RIGHT:** 'Isabella Ducrot' from La Roseraie du Désert (photos by Becky Hook)

*La Roseraie du Désert*—France

In Southwest France La Roserie du Désert has focused its collection and mail-order nursery on the Teas, Chinas, Noisettes, and Hybrid Giganteas. The roses John and Becky Hook have gathered to this beautiful spot comprise one of the finest collections of these tender beauties found

**ADDRESS:**

Bouzon Gellenave  
Gers 32290, France

**OPEN:**

By appointment

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**CONTACT:**

John and Becky Hook  
(0033) 05 62091546  
sales@frenchtearose.com  
www.frenchtearose.com

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anywhere in the world. Plants are grown on their own roots and the Hooks are open to exporting their own-root plants around the world.

More than 500 varieties of roses, many of which have not been offered in commerce elsewhere, inspire us to believe that nurseries can indeed lead us toward preservation of rare old roses.

**AREAS OF ROSE PRESERVATION:** Tender classes of roses suited to Mediterranean and warm winter climates, including a staggering list of very rare Teas like 'Anna Jung', 'Auguste Comte', 'Bianca di Corbara', 'Comtesse de Caserta', 'Isabella Ducrot', 'Isabelle Nabonnand', 'Mlle. la Comtesse de Leusse', 'Mrs. Campbell Hall', 'Mrs. Herbert Hawksworth', 'Mrs. Miles Kennedy', 'Mrs. T. S. Wright', 'Phillipa Pirette', and 'Souvenir d'Auguste Legros'.

### *Pépinières Louis Lens*—Oudenburg, Belgium

**ADDRESS:**

Redinestraat 11  
B-8460 Oudenburg, Belgium

**OPEN:**

May–Oct, Fri–Sat 9–5  
Nov–Apr, Mon–Sat 9–5  
(closed bank holidays and noon–1 pm)

**CONTACT:**

Rudy and Ann Velle-Boudolf  
+32 59-267-830  
www.lens-roses.be/  
info@lens-roses.com

The nursery was started in 1870 by Louis Lens senior as a general tree nursery; rose growing soon became a significant part of its business. It was Louis Lens the son who went on to make a major contribution to rose breeding in the late twentieth century, with his search for generous and carefree shrub roses that reflected the charm of roses from an earlier time. Lens worked extensively on expanding the Hybrid Musk type, and, unlike Kordes in Germany, Lens maintained the style and old-fashioned quality present in Pemberton's roses.

Over 800 varieties of roses are grown in this large operation, now continued under the skilled hands and passionate guidance of Rudy and Ann Velle-Boudolf. The largest selection of Hybrid Musk roses grown anywhere in the world will be found here, along with excellent collections of all of the old rose groups.

**AREAS OF ROSE PRESERVATION:**

Apart from Lens' own introductions which, though new still, are likely to become rare and endangered in the near future, several very hard to find Hybrid Musks include 'Ceres' (Pemberton, 1914), and 'Queen of the Musks' (Paul, 1913).



### *Les Rosiers du Berry*—Loye sur Arnon, France

Adding to an already stellar collection of great depth, Marie-Thérèse and Jean François Sarraud have been serving as a conduit for the reproduction of Hybrid Perpetual roses in the great collection of l'Haÿ-les-Roses. More than 60 old varieties have now been saved by their efforts, and are moving into commerce in Europe as a result. But the more than 500 varieties offered by this nursery offer a comprehensive selection of great old roses.

Species roses are well represented with rarities like *Rosa ecae* 'Helen Knight', and *R. spaethiana*. Of great interest are roses that are growing older, but not yet highly regarded; the Sarrauds grow a number of climbing Hybrid Tea sports, including 'Voie Lactée' and 'Marie Claire'.



**AREAS OF ROSE PRESERVATION:** The rare Hybrid Perpetuals of la Roseaie de l'Haÿ-les-Roses that have not been in commerce in nearly 100 years; 'Baronne de Prailly' (Liabaud, 1871), 'Centifolia Rosea' (Touvais, 1863), 'Fortune Besson' (Hinner, 1910), 'Général Barál' (Damaizin, 1867), to name just a few.

**ADDRESS:**

18170 Les Pigeats  
Loye sur Arnon, Cher 18170  
France

**OPEN:**

By appointment

**CONTACT:**

Marie-Thérèse et  
Jean François Sarraud  
+33 2 48 96 19 76  
www.lesrosiersduberry.com  
contact@lesrosiersduberry.fr

**OPPOSITE PAGE:** Ann and Rudy Velle-Boudolf in a growing field at Pépinières Louis Lens (photo by Lens Roses)

**LEFT:** 'Fortune Besson', Les Rosiers du Berry (photo by Étienne Bouret)

### *Rosenschule Ruf*—Hessen, Germany

Werner and Anna Ruf are ardent conservationists and organic farmers. They take great pride in the quality of the plants they produce and have gained a great following in Germany. Their nursery not only is home to more than 600 varieties of roses, mostly antique, but it provides its customers with many opportunities to gain greater knowledge of horticulture. One of their most popular events is the picking of fragrant rose petals to produce rose oil, a skill they teach to visitors who come in season.

The Ruf collection reflects, above all, a selection of roses that is suited to their climate in Northern Europe, with resistance to disease and cold. Species, Rugosas, and Spinosissimas are well represented, but so are the hardier of the Teas, Chinas, and Noisettes, along with a host of old European roses. They have recently agreed to take on the propagation and distribution of the oldest and rarest of the Hybrid Tea roses in the great garden at Sangerhausen.

**AREAS OF PRESERVATION:** Some 49 old HTs were propagated in 2009 and will be released through their nursery in the years to come. Many very rare roses grace the Ruf collection, including *Rosa terbinthinacea*, *R. rubiginosa* 'Taubertal', *R. obtusifolia*, and *R. elliptica*.

**ADDRESS:**

zum Sauerbrunnen 35  
61231 Bad Nauheim-Steinfurth,  
Hessen, Germany

**OPEN:**

March to Christmas  
Tuesday to Friday  
9:30 am–1 pm

**CONTACT:**

Werner and Anna Ruf  
0049 603 281893  
www.rosenschule-ruf.de  
info@rosenschule-ruf.de