



Newsletter

APRIL 2022

In This Issue:

From Our President

1

Farewells and Greetings:

Liesbeth Cooper

3

Bob Martin

3

Ingrid Verdegem

4

The Roses Live On

5

Murta Heritage Rose Garden:

A Dream of Beauty

7

Amador County Master
Gardeners' Heritage

Rose Garden in

California's Gold Country

13

Growing Teas in a Northern
Climate—My Experiment on

Long Island, New York

17

Celebrating Anne Belovich's

Life and Legacy

20

Update from the
American Rose Center

21

Upcoming Heritage Rose
Events

21

Join the Heritage Rose
Foundation

21

Lynchburg Old City Cemetery
Antique Rose Festival & Sale

22

HRF Mission Statement
& Contacts

23

*The illustration above is of 'Rosa Mundi'
by James Sagmiller. This artwork was used on
the front cover of the first issue of Rosa Mundi,
the journal of the HRF, in Autumn, 2005.*



"Belfield" in the herb garden at Elizabeth Park.

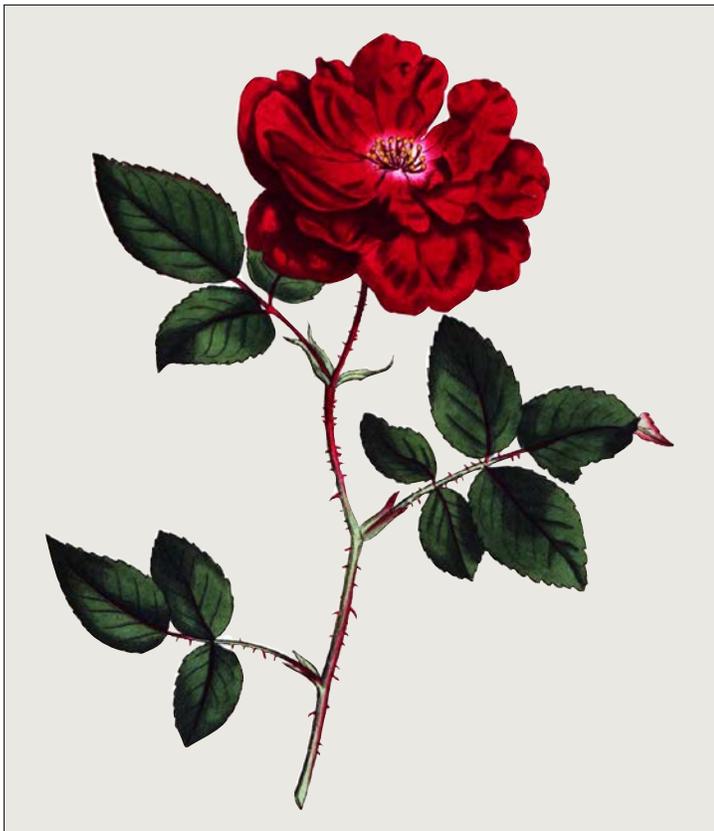
Photo by Stephen Scanniello.

From Our President

STEPHEN SCANNIELLO

The year was 1794. Exciting changes were happening in the rose world. The British periodical, *The Botanical Magazine*, featured a full color illustration of the most recent rose sensation from China: *Rosa semperflorens*. Identified by editor William Curtis as simply 'Ever-Blowing Rose', this small, rather insignificant looking shrub produced deep crimson blooms every month of the year. The Asian expedition that captured this rose was sponsored by Gilbert Slater of England and the rose became known as 'Slater's Crimson China'. In his description of this novelty, Curtis claimed the plant was small enough to be grown in a coffee cup. But, when planted in the garden, the plants reached a height of three feet. In 1800, nurseries in New York City were selling this rose as a window-garden plant at the exorbitant price of one dollar a pot.

Rose hybridizers on both sides of the English Channel and across the Atlantic discovered that this crimson China rose was a potent parent capable of producing larger ever-blooming seedlings, eventually pushing the diminutive 'Slater's Crimson China' into oblivion.



R. semperflorens from *The Botanical Magazine*, 1794. This rose became known as 'Slater's Crimson China'.

Courtesy of Harvard University.

The 1822 catalog for Prince's Nursery in Flushing, New York (now a part of New York City) included a new category "Everblooming, or Monthly Roses" with 10 varieties of China and tea roses. Top of the list was 'Chinese pale red, or Otahite'*[sic]*. In Prince's 1823 catalog there were 19 varieties listed under the category of "Chinese Everblooming or Monthly Roses." By 1846 there were 276 varieties divided into two groups: "Chinese Everblooming, Daily, or Bengal Roses" and "Tea Scented China Roses."

Fast forward to the mid-1950's, when members of the Bermuda Rose Society discovered a red rose that bore a strong resemblance to the 1794 illustration in Curtis' journal. Since an original living specimen from the 18th century is nowhere known to exist for purposes of living comparison, the Bermuda society named their rose "Belfield," for the estate where it was discovered.

There are today several nurseries that are still selling a rose labeled 'Slater's Crimson China.' In the new garden design at the American Rose Center in Shreveport, Louisiana, the Heritage Rose Foundation plans to do a comparative planting with "Belfield" alongside red China roses currently being offered as 'Slater's Crimson China.'

I grow "Belfield" in my Barnegat, New Jersey garden.

I've also planted several in the Peggy Rockefeller Rose Garden, where they survive the zone 7 winters. I have two specimens in Elizabeth Park (West Hartford, Connecticut). One in the new Heritage Rose Garden and the other in the herb garden. Both need to be potted up and stored in the greenhouse through the coldest months, otherwise they'll die in the zone 6 winter.

Nancy Marr, one of our longtime members, has had great luck growing China and tea roses in her zone 7 garden in Long Island, New York. In this newsletter you can read all about Nancy's garden. She shares tips and advice on the best way to grow these beauties in a northern climate.

There are two heritage collections featured in this issue. One in California and the other in Italy. You'll find the details and beautiful images inside. You'll also learn what a Rose Maniac is.

If you own a nursery and would like to donate old garden roses to our American Rose Center circle garden project, contact Pam Smith who is designing the garden. Pam has our "wish list," compiled by our members.

Since we've re-started the *Newsletter*, we've had a significant increase in membership renewals as well as new members. Thank you. I invite everyone who is enjoying our newsletter to consider renewing or joining the Heritage Rose Foundation as a new member. If you would like to submit an article for our next newsletter, send your proposal to our editor, Anita Clevenger.

As I write this it's snowing and sleeting. Spring can't get here fast enough! ❄️



"Belfield."

Photo by Stephen Scammiello.

Farewells and Greetings

ANITA CLEVENGER

In this newsletter, we again pay tribute to several noted rosarians whom we recently lost. We also acknowledge the demise of the volunteer-supported Sacramento Historic Rose Garden. At times, it feels like heritage rose lovers are a vanishing breed, and that our preservation efforts and the gardens we have created may all come to naught. Don't despair: all is not lost. Family has stepped in to maintain Anne Belovich's garden and farm. We have several articles about other small heritage rose gardens have recently been established, with new, enthusiastic rose growers working to preserve the roses, learn about them and share them with others. The Heritage Rose Foundation is the curator of the Fourth Circle Heritage Rose Garden at the American Rose Center in Shreveport, Louisiana, and will support moving the Chambersville, Texas, Anne Belovich rambler collection there as well. Commercial growers are adding found and other rare heritage roses to their offerings.

While we must say a fond farewell to our friends and cherish our memories of lost or diminished gardens, we can make opportunities to mentor new rose enthusiasts and new gardens. By sharing our love of these old roses, and our kinship with one another, new heritage rose lovers and gardens will grow.

Liesbeth Cooper

MALCOLM MANNERS



Photo by Malcolm Manners.

The Heritage Rose world has lost another "great" in the passing of **LIESBETH COOPER**. Liesbeth was a major force in the Bermuda Rose Society for many years, serving as their president, and having a leading role in the publication of the various editions of their

book. We first met at the World Federation of Rose Societies regional meeting in Bermuda, in 1987. There had been an ice storm in Atlanta, and I barely made my connection. I arrived in Bermuda sans luggage, and due to several mix-ups, it was more than 3 days before my luggage arrived. On the first evening, Liesbeth and Neil had all of the international speakers to their home for dinner. Liesbeth quickly determined that I wore the same size as their son, and so she loaned me clothes for the conference! I've been to Bermuda many times since, and we've met up among the roses numerous other times, when Liesbeth and Neil have been to Florida, as well as conferences in Charleston, South Carolina, England, and France, often at Heritage Rose Foundation events. Over the years I came

really to appreciate them as wonderful friends.

In June 1999, the Heritage Rose Foundation invited her to join the Board of Trustees, as official representative for the Bermuda Rose Society. She was an enthusiastic and tireless worker in that role. She was a great student of old roses, always a stickler for getting the story exactly right, making sure research was thorough and valid, and that we maintained the very highest standards. I think all of us on the board deeply appreciated her wise advice. Vale dear Liesbeth! 🌹

Bob Martin

CONNIE HILKER



Photo courtesy of Connie Hilker.

BOB MARTIN, immediate past president of the American Rose Society, died unexpectedly on November 26, 2021. I first met Bob in 2012 when he was a presenter at the Colonial District ARS district meeting.

During our brief conversation after his program, I was surprised to find that we both had some of the same roses on our list of favorites. I grow 'Lullaby' (Polyantha, 1953) because of his recommendation that evening.

Our paths crossed again a few years later when we were both presenters at the Tenarky District spring meeting. He sat in the front row during my program, “The ABC’s of OGR’s,” listening intently as I introduced the audience to the history and some of the varieties in the classes of Old Garden Roses. We sat at the same table during the banquet that evening, and I learned that Bob loved everything about roses. He was as passionate about the history and preservation of roses as he was about growing and showing modern exhibition roses.

In 2017, Bob and I met up again at the ARS Convention in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. He was ARS Vice President at that time, preparing to assume the presidency the next year, and he surprised me by asking if I would chair the Old Garden and Shrub Rose Committee. I told him that the committee needed to be more relevant and visible to the ARS membership at large, and he agreed. We changed the name of the committee to the Heritage and Preservation Committee to focus attention on all heritage roses, not just those that existed before 1867. Articles about heritage roses now appear in every issue of *American Rose* magazine. While Bob was president, he also led the effort to simplify ARS classification which included restoration of the Rambler class.

Bob was a friend and a champion of the history and heritage of roses. His goal was for everyone to grow better roses, no matter which roses they chose to grow, and to appreciate the origin of the roses that we love. 🌹

Ingrid Verdegem

ANITA CLEVENGER



Photo by Hans van Hage.

Yet another heritage rose expert passed away at the end of 2021. Belgium’s

INGRID VERDEGEM

became involved in old roses at age 16, when she found a fragrant rose by the roadside that appeared to be Redoute’s ‘Celsiana.’ Intrigued by

this first taste of rose research, she spent years studying archives and examining roses. In the ensuing 50 years, Ingrid contributed so much. She produced many

articles, authored two books, *The Quest for the Black Rose* and *Oeillet Flamand*, was a featured speaker at the International Heritage Rose Conferences in Sakura, Japan, and Dunedin, New Zealand, and gave many other lively, informative lectures. In 2010, she was instrumental in the development of Geschwind garden and a related exhibition at the Belgian estate of Hex.

Her friend, Netherland nurseryman Hans van Hage, writes this tribute:

“Ingrid Verdegem was a woman with unmatched knowledge of classic roses and a strong personal opinion, which although it complimented her, wasn’t always helpful in making friends: every now and then she would carefully but angrily kick the ivory towers of the rose world: angrily, but always supported by facts and arguments based on her documents and vast knowledge. And trust me, there are plenty of holy cows in the rose community...”

Above all else, Ingrid was Human...with a capital H. Wife, mother, friend. With an aching heart, I say my silent goodbye.

She truly passed too soon. We were not done learning from her. Ingrid had so much more knowledge to share with the world. I am going to miss her more than you can imagine, and not just because of her knowledge, but also and mostly because of her humor, and her laugh.

As for a rose? Personally, she will always be connected to one rose. My memory of her is intertwined with the wonderful rambler ‘Lucens Erecta,’ which she gifted me from her own rose garden years ago. I am going to miss her so much.”

Northern California rose enthusiasts remember Ingrid for her visit to the Sacramento Historic Rose Garden, where she had a chance to meet its founder, Fred Boutin, and gave a lecture about Redouté, puncturing some misconceptions and adding some new information. We summarized the lecture in the September 2013 *Cemetery Rose* newsletter. (The article can be found on page 7 here: <https://tinyurl.com/Cemetery-Newsletter>) We, too, will miss her and are so glad to have had the opportunity to spend a little time with her. 🌹

The Roses Live On

ANITA CLEVENGER

If you enter the Sacramento City Cemetery looking for its award-winning Historic Rose Garden, you won't be able to find it. The beautiful sign at the entry is gone and all rose labels were discarded. The trellises and other supports have been removed. Most of the 500 roses in the collection are still there, although some have been removed and others are struggling to survive. There is no longer a cadre of dedicated rose volunteers caring for the roses. Instead, grounds maintenance is done by Sheriff's Work Project crew, directed by Parks staff, who cut the roses short or mow them to the ground. Climbing roses once trained along the wrought-iron fence are now knee-high. Nearly all of the roses are unrecognizable.

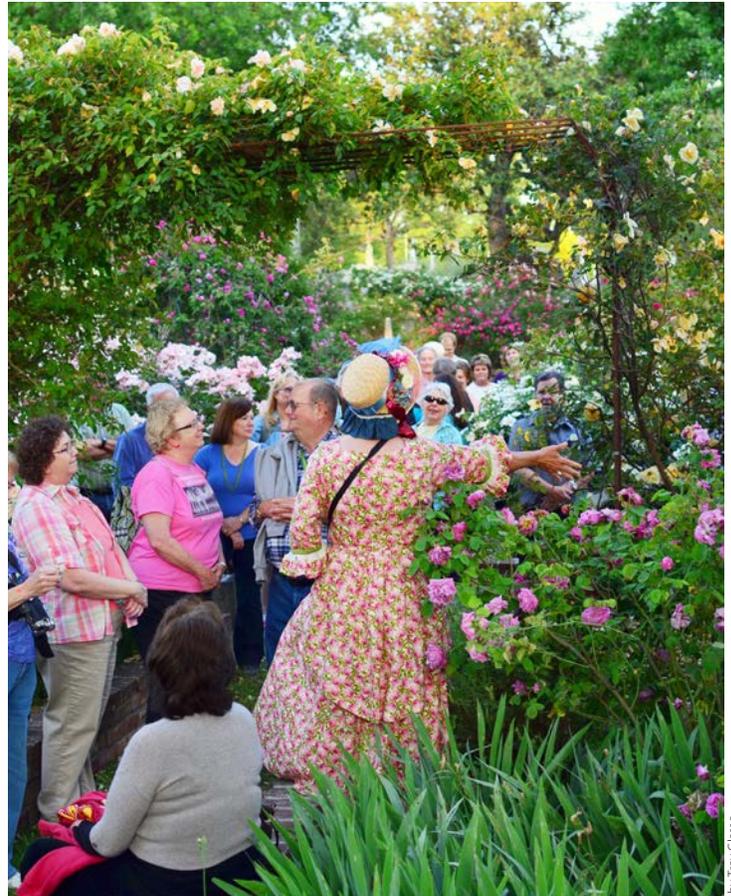
The core of the garden's collection was California found roses, collected from historic sites and waysides. Some have never been identified. Others are thought to be cultivars that were considered extinct. Multiple accessions of varieties from different locations were collected and grown to allow comparative study. Provenance of the roses was documented to help trace California's horticultural history. The roses provided replacement stock if a rose was lost from its original location. Stephen Scanniello called the garden a "living library."

Another hallmark of the garden was to allow roses to "reach their full potential," as garden founder Fred Boutin said. Some roses grew very big, but volunteers trimmed them to keep pathways and inscriptions on monuments clear. The Historic Rose Garden attained the lushly-



Sacramento City Cemetery in 1866.

Photo courtesy Library of Congress.



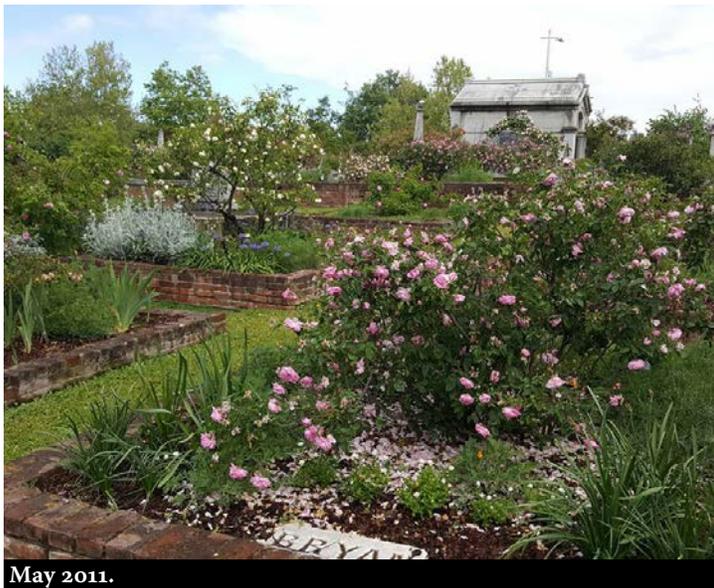
The Roses and Romance Tour on April 19, 2014.

Photo by Troy Glasco.

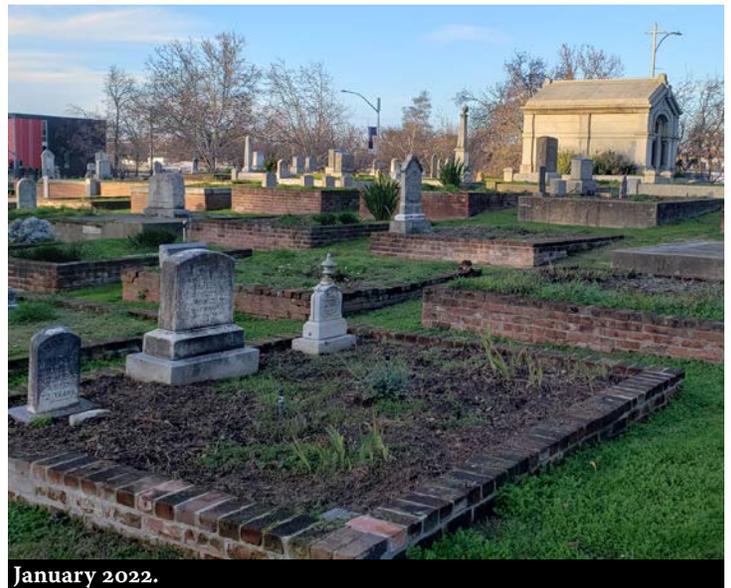
planted feel that the cemetery had in its pioneer days, as documented by a photo from 1866.

Despite this precedent, city staff believed that the garden was historically inappropriate and threatened the preservation of the cemetery. They bridled at the use of the word "historic" in the garden's name, pointing out that the garden was founded in 1992 and rejecting the notion that the plants themselves were historic. Staff wanted the monuments to be visible from every direction approached. Volunteers, neighbors, preservation advocates and the world-wide rose community protested, but to no avail.

When the city first issued draconian horticultural guidelines in 2016, garden volunteers sprang into action to ensure that the individual cultivars were not lost, sending cuttings to several nurseries. Their goal was to ensure that a rose was grown in at least four commercial and/or public gardens in the United States. Nursery owners were invited to take cuttings. Curators of public gardens got first dibs on roses sold during the annual Open Garden. We knew



May 2011.



January 2022.

that the best way to preserve a rose is to grow it as many places as possible.

In 2020, 65 of the rarest roses had been propagated to establish a satellite garden at Cosumnes River College, where volunteers propagated roses for the annual Open Garden. Those plans stalled when the campus closed due to COVID-19. So, we did what the rest of the world did: we pivoted.

We reached out to other California heritage rose gardens, and gave roses to six of them. We also initiated the planting of two more small gardens, at Woodland's Center for Land-Based Learning and the Marysville Historic Cemetery. Not only are the roses thriving, we are nurturing new heritage rose lovers as well.

Former volunteers still get together socially and take rose road trips to help at the new gardens or just for fun. We have kept track of who is growing our roses, and hope to begin propagating again this fall. We would like to

support heritage rose gardens with plants, expertise and financial grants to ensure that our and other historic roses are preserved. The cemetery garden was a great way to connect old rose lovers. We hope to keep doing that.

We have maintained the *Cemetery Rose* website, <https://www.cemeteryrose.org/>, to share current information and provide archival material. On it, you can find an updated rose catalog, which visitors to the cemetery may use to identify the remaining roses, along with past newsletters.

The splendors of the Historic Rose garden may be gone, but they live on in our memories, photographs and hearts. Its roses live on in many places! 🌹

ANITA CLEVINGER is the former curator of the *Sacramento Historic Rose Garden*.



Newly planted roses in Woodland's Center for Land-Based Learning.



"Garberville Hybrid Perpetual"



'Regulus'

Photos by Anita Clevenger.



Murta Heritage Rose Garden: A Dream of Beauty

SABRINA MASNATA

“But she was inside the wonderful garden and she could come through the door under the ivy any time and she felt, as if she had found a world of her own.”

—*The Secret Garden*, Frances Hodgson Burnett

Stepping for the first time into the cemetery in Murta, I felt exactly like Burnett’s character Mary did when she first walked through the door of her secret garden: a sense of awe filled my heart at the sight of that tiny cemetery that had been neglected for decades. Its ancient gravestones, covered with moss, ivy and brambles, were so full of charm and beauty that I immediately felt the need to do my best to restore and preserve it. It was the beginning of a great journey shared with dear friends: dreamers like me who believe that our world can truly be made better with just a little touch of beauty.

But let’s start from the beginning of the story.

Murta is a lovely village on the hills of Val Polcevera, a valley in the outskirts of Genoa (Italy) that over the years has been impacted by a dramatic process

of industrialization that changed its rural landscape forever. I’m a member of the cultural committee *Quellicheatrastacistannobene* (Those Who Live Well in Trasta), which works to highlight the historical and natural heritage that is still present in our land, in particular in the villages of Trasta (where I live) and Murta. We do so by organizing cultural events (mainly exhibits and tea parties) to raise funds for our main conservation project called *La via delle rose* (The Way of Roses), a series of about one hundred roses that will be planted on public and private land along the road between the two villages leading to the cemetery.

Built in 1835, the graveyard is rich in funerary symbols that are typical of any 19th century monumental cemetery: wreaths and garlands of flowers, torches, urns and winged hourglasses which remind us that we have little time in this life, time that should be used to make the world a better place. We started working in the cemetery in January 2019 to clear it from brambles and vegetation. It was hard work, but as we went on, day by day, we kept on discovering new details and new wonders that fuelled

All photos by Sabrina Masnata.



Left: 'Slater's Crimson China',
Right: 'Hume's Blush Tea-scented China'.

us with energy. At the time, there weren't roses in the cemetery. However, as we were already passionate about the queen of flowers and there were floral details carved into the marble on almost every tomb, we started to think that our little cemetery could actually be transformed into a garden. Roses seemed to be the best allies in this process of regeneration.

Since most of our fundraising events have tea as their main ingredient, we decided to choose roses that could be linked to its history in order to connect our different activities. China roses seemed to be the right choice, of course, as they originally came from the same area where *Camellia sinensis* grows and were brought to Europe on board the same clippers that transported tea!

Murta Heritage Rose Garden is a walk through the history of roses since the official arrival of the so-called stud Chinas in Europe up to today.

The walk starts with 'Slater's Crimson China', 'Parson's Pink China', 'Hume's Blush Tea-scented China' and the rose that is sold as "Park's Yellow Tea-scented



Top: 'Sanguinea'.
Bottom: 'Souvenir de Madame Auguste Charles'.

China" (most probably 'Fée Opale'). We are aware that the other stud Chinas in commerce today may not be the original plants. However, these varieties help us to explain the great impact of those ancestors on the development of roses up to the modern hybrid teas. **EDITOR'S NOTE:** 'Parson's Pink China' is better known in commerce as 'Old Blush', and is believed very likely to be the true, original stud China.

Moving on in the garden, we have a great number of Chinas that are amazing with their palette of colours and everlasting blooms: 'Sanguinea', 'Le Vésuve', 'Archiduc Charles', 'Louis-Philippe', 'Arethusa', and 'Dresden China' ("Sophie's Perpetual") to mention just a few. We also have two plants of *R. chinensis spontanea* 'Pink Form' and 'Red Form' that are climbing up on a tree and enable us to show visitors what the wild China roses look like in all their mighty height and delicate flowers that only show once a year, unfortunately.

Strolling on in the garden, we arrive at the Bourbons' corner where a few varieties of these stunners are creating



Top: 'Lijiang Road Climber.'
Bottom: 'Prince Charles'

a thick patch of scent and shaded pink: 'Bourboniana', 'Souvenir de Madame Auguste Charles', 'Prince Charles', 'Reine Victoria', and 'Souvenir de la Malmaison' give us the chance to tell wonderful stories about this class of roses born by chance in the Indian Ocean.

Not far away, we find the star of the garden in late April: 'Lijiang Road Climber', an amazing *R. gigantea* hybrid that can climb up to more than 6 meters and becomes a huge cloud of scented pink roses when in full bloom.

And then, on to the teas: lovely creatures that fascinate visitors (and volunteers, too) with their scent and beauty. 'Safrano', 'Archiduc Joseph', 'Général Schablikine', 'Marie Van Houtte', and 'Duchesse de Brabant' are among our favourite ones. The climate of our region that stretches on the coast of the Northern Mediterranean sea seems to be perfect for mild temperature lovers as Chinas and teas are.

The ancient, somewhat ruined and yet still charming walls of the cemetery are covered by a small collection of Noisette roses. Starting from 'Blush Noisette' up to 'William Allen Richardson' and 'Crépuscule', the roses are



Top: Tea roses.
Bottom: 'Archiduc Joseph'

arranged in a palette of soft colors that flow from pink to apricot to cream. Visitors are charmed by the story of this class of roses born in the South of the USA not long after the first stud Chinas' arrival to Europe. Roses travelled as quickly as ideas at the end of the Enlightenment era!

Our journey through the history of roses comes to an end with a small collection of modern Hybrid Teas that gives us the opportunity to show visitors the difference between our old garden roses and these modern shrubs created to be strong, very productive and disease resistant if possible. Our modern roses come from the private collection of a rosarian who sadly passed away a few years ago: Doctor Giuseppe Maria Rissone, who worked with Doctors Without Borders for many years. He found peace, once home, in the restoring beauty of his beloved garden. We dedicated the rose garden to his memory, and his nephew donated part of his collection that we cherish as a precious heritage not only of his garden, but also of his indomitable humanitarian spirit.

In order to strengthen the link between our garden



Murta Heritage Rose Garden.

and the history of tea, we've purchased two of the roses introduced to the western world by the great plant hunter Robert Fortune. 'Fortune's Double Yellow' and the rose sold as 'Fortune's Five-Colored Rose' remind us of the courage of this man who travelled all over China, disguised as a Mandarin. His mission was stealing all the secrets (and as many seeds and cuttings of *C. sinensis* as possible, of course) to produce tea, thus enabling England to develop its own plantations in India and its other eastern colonies.

Murta Heritage Rose Garden is almost three years old now. It's a young and tiny rose garden, but it is already quite well known in Italy. The most important Italian garden magazine, *Gardenia*, published an article about it last October. We're so proud of this success, even more so when people react to the beauty of our rose garden with that same sense of awe that I felt when I first walked into it. As Mary Lennox and her fellow gardeners say in Frances Hodgson Burnett's masterpiece, "there's magic in the garden!" It's a magic that can transform a neglected cemetery into a stunning rose garden or that can make us volunteers come alive while working among its walls or

while talking about it with visitors and friends.

Even if the rose garden is an established reality, we still have a lot of work to do along *La via delle rose*. My goal is to see it flourish next spring. We've already planted Hybrid Musks and Hybrid Perpetuals in two private plots, but there's still so much to do! But this does not stop us. After all, as Walt Disney used to say, "If you can dream it, you can do it," so never stop dreaming, my friends in roses! We have a world to make a better place!

Finally, I want to thank you for giving space in your newsletter for our tiny garden on the other side of the ocean. It was such a privilege for me to tell my story to eminent rosarians and great rose lovers as you are. I'm just a beginner, eager to learn and to do my best to keep my dreams alive and to contribute to the conservation not only of the local heritage but of heritage roses as well. My dearest gratitude to Anita Clevenger and to all the people who, over the years, have dreamt and created the Sacramento Historic Rose Garden that has been and continues to be a great source of inspiration for me. Your garden lives in ours, nothing is lost! Thank you! 🌹



Amador County Master Gardeners' Heritage Rose Garden in California's Gold Country

SUSAN PRICE

The newly established Heritage Rose Garden in California's gold country may be small, but it is packed full of unique treasures. Not only will you find a carefully curated collection of heritage roses, but they are growing alongside California natives and other heirloom plants that have proven to make wonderful companions. The heritage roses, of course, are the stars. There are over 60 different varieties, most with ties to the local region.

The garden, established in 2019, was designed to preserve heritage roses. In our garden, we generally consider roses over 100 years old to be heritage roses. These roses, many collected from local pioneer cemeteries and old homesteads, were in danger of being lost. When the 2015 Butte fire in California's Calaveras County almost destroyed some of Judy and Bob Dean's collection of heritage roses, it became clear that a backup garden was needed to ensure their survival.

The garden's mission: To create a garden to showcase historic roses, California natives and pollinator plants to be used in educating the public on sustainable gardening

practices. It is a partnership between the Amador County Master Gardeners and the Mother Lode Land Trust (MLLT) which owns the property where the garden stands. Their common goal is to preserve and protect agricultural treasures.

Most of our roses were propagated from cuttings taken from the garden of Judy Dean, while many others were donated by Anita Clevenger, former curator of the Sacramento City Cemetery's Historic Rose Garden. Both women have been huge supporters and mentors, encouraging the creation of more public gardens that showcase heritage roses.

A few of the roses were collected by our own Master Gardeners, newly anointed "rose rustlers" who spotted old roses along local Amador County roadsides or in old cemeteries and took cuttings. The collection includes legacy roses like "Jost Plot," a rose similar to "Angels Camp Tea," with full, fragrant blooms that vary from white to pink or apricot. This repeat bloomer was found in a plot of the Sacramento City Cemetery where the earliest burial

Photo by Susan Price.



“Rusty Bird” garden art upon an acorn woodpecker granary.



“Oneto Home Saffron”



“Jost Plot”

Photos by Anita Cleverger, except top right by Malcolm Manners.

is of 3-year-old George Jost in 1866. Another legacy rose from Sacramento, “Like Lamarque,” is a tea-Noisette and a prolific bloomer. Its large, full, pure white double blooms with lemon-yellow centers grace one of our four custom-built metal trellises designed and built by 15 year-old Colton Folena for his Eagle Scout project.

‘Climbing American Beauty’ is a garden favorite. This climbing variety, a hybrid wichurana bred by Hoopes, Bro. & Thomas Co. in the U.S. in 1909, flowers prolifically in spring and has a wonderful fragrance.

Many of the found roses have become garden “all-stars,” whether for their reliable blooms, unique color or distinctive fragrance. “Gatewood Street San Andreas” is one example. This found rose from San Andreas is believed to be a blend between *R. wichurana* and *R. multiflora*. Its profusion of small white double flowers throughout spring and summer makes it a top performer. “Six-Mile Road Gallica,” a found rose from Murphys, California, is special for its small but full lilac-pink blooms. The apricot blooms on “Oneto Home Saffron,” a China/tea rose found at the Oneto House in Sonora, California, make it a garden standout. “Copperopolis Saloon” (a.k.a. “Copperopolis Bar”), a vigorous rose found next to an old saloon in Copperopolis, California, is special for its many-petaled



'Climbing American Beauty' Note custom-built metal trellis designed and built by 15 year-old Colton Folea for his Eagle Scout project.



"Copperopolis Saloon."

Photos: top left by Anna Clewinger, top right by Susan Price, lower left by Anne Luber.

deep red rose color with an underlying orange tint. With seemingly non-stop blooms and a wonderful fragrance, what's not to love?

Of course, no California Heritage Rose Garden should be without at least one of its native roses. *Rosa californica* beautifully fills the bill. Native from Oregon to Baja California, this rose has small mid-pink blooms in summer and a profusion of bright red hips in fall. It was documented as a species rose in North America around 1878 and was grown by the early mission fathers and early settlers.

In addition to our heritage roses, you will find a selection of California natives throughout the garden. Redbud, mock orange, California fuchsia, bush lupine and penstemon have been planted among the roses, as well as some old favorite annuals and perennials, like irises, daffodils, yarrow and native violets. Not only do these plants make great companions, they extend the season of bloom and provide diversity—inviting even more beneficial insects into the garden.

Visitors to the garden will see not just this special collection of prized plants. Throughout the garden there are handcrafted features not to be missed. Custom-built trellises, benches and garden art make the garden come alive.



R. californica.



Master Gardener volunteers—the Rose Maniacs.

A few years ago, this plot was a patch of weeds. We take great pride in the transformation. The 6,000-square-foot garden was created completely by Master Gardener volunteers, along with a few generous friends and spouses. The many volunteer hours of labor built the deer fencing, created the paths and formed the planting beds, not to mention doing all the planting. Dedicated volunteers installed irrigation, hauled and spread compost and mulch, and began the ongoing process of weed management. Great care went into labelling all the plants to ensure that vital information isn't lost. Many of the materials used were salvaged or donated, with local businesses offering generous discounts.

Talk to any of the seven or eight self-described “rose maniacs” that work in the garden every Tuesday morning, and they will gush with pride. The moniker comes from the ‘Gloire des Rosomanes’ rose whose name translates to “Glory of the Rose Maniacs.” The weekly workdays have provided much needed respite from the isolation of COVID. Each week a bloom survey is completed to monitor plant health. Detailed notes are taken that feed into future “to-do” lists.

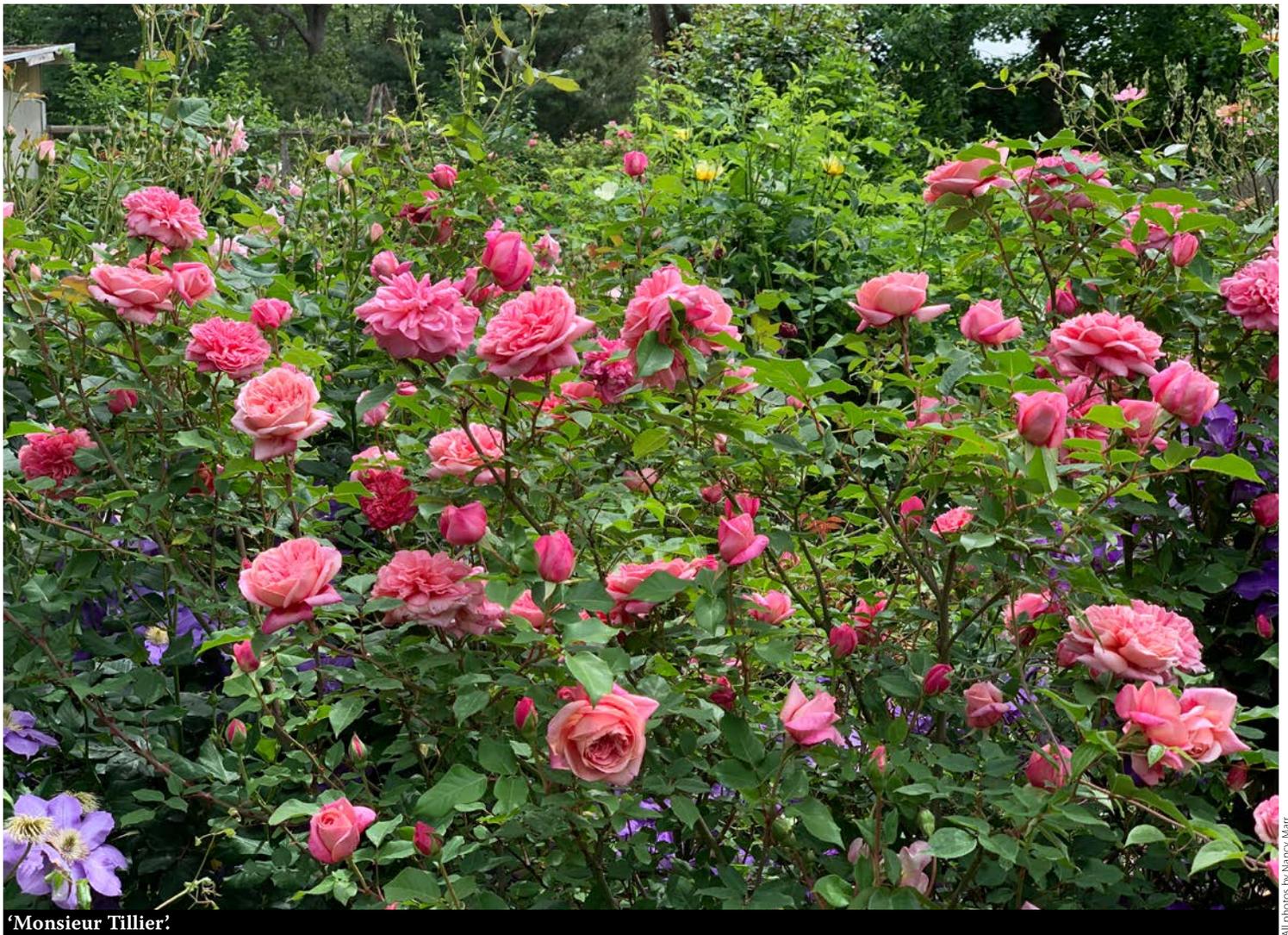
COVID restrictions have limited the opportunities for classes and workshops, but open garden days and some special events have been held at the garden. Several

classes, including pruning and propagation, are planned for this year. Open Garden Days are tentatively planned for the third Saturday of each month throughout the spring and fall as well as Tuesday mornings, when the Master Gardeners do their weekly chores.

This new heritage rose garden in Amador County provides one more place for visitors to learn and appreciate these special plants, perhaps seeing that they may have a place in their own gardens. Besides their historical value, heritage roses’ cold and drought tolerance make them tough enough to stand up to some of the harshest California conditions. Rose topics will head the list for workshops and classes while taking every opportunity to promote integrated pest management, propagation and energy-conserving garden practices. We hope to educate, encourage and inspire our visitors.

The Heritage Rose Garden rose collection is summarized in a newly published brochure available to garden visitors. This “labor of love” was developed by a dedicated team led by Judie Wood, the Master Gardener Coordinator of the garden.

The Heritage Rose Garden is at 1334 Jackson Gate Road in Jackson, California. For up-to-date information on public events and classes visit https://ucanr.edu/sites/Amador_County_MGs/Heritage_Rose_Garden/



'Monsieur Tillier'

All photos by Nancy Marr.

Growing Teas in a Northern Climate—My Experiment on Long Island, New York

NANCY MARR

Traditionally, tea roses are considered too tender for northern climates such as Long Island, New York. Back in the day, before global warming became more apparent, it wasn't unusual for the East River in New York City to completely freeze over. Up until recently, my neighborhood was considered a zone 6. My garden is located in the higher elevations of the north shore of Long Island. Three years ago, we did have a zone 6 winter with temperatures at night getting below zero. Once, my car thermometer registered -6°F . That year, all of my tender roses had blackened canes down to the two-inch-deep mound of oak leaves used as winter protection. But recently, most of our winters are now zone 7. The last few winters were mild and I had no winter kill on any of my roses.

THE BEGINNING

About 20 years ago, I initially decided to try the Tea rose considered the most winter hardy: 'Lady Hillingdon'. I don't remember why. 'Lady Hillingdon' did very well, growing to 6 feet tall and not any more tender than my Hybrid Teas (HTs). Since I thought this rose was the only winter hardy one, many years passed before I decided to try others. I eventually added other varieties to my garden after seeing many listed by Texas A&M University as Earth-Kind® roses.

My next tea rose purchase was 'Madame Antoine Mari' in 2009. Since this one did quite well, I quickly added 'Dr. Grill' and 'Madame Lombard' in 2011. These teas were planted in the back garden and I noticed that my tea roses were doing better than the HTs nearby, which were not



'Lady Hillingdon'

doing well. I replaced them with even more tea roses.

I do not have any unusual tea or China roses, and have not found any on my own. New York cemeteries are mostly lawns. I am completely dependent on receiving teas and Chinas from the few US nurseries that carry them. Most of mine came from Antique Rose Emporium and Roses Unlimited.

My garden now has over 22 varieties of tea and China roses out of a total of 150 roses. I've grown others, but either they died or I replaced them.

HEALTH AND HARDINESS

Some tea varieties are strong growers, sending up new canes from the base of the plant each year, which can replace damaged older canes. I had one plant regenerate itself this way. Its original four large woody canes that came through the winter OK but then slowly died, while four new canes from the base of the plant grew. By fall, those new canes were about 4 feet tall. It helps if a variety can come back like a phoenix especially after a hard winter. Another variety, 'Baronne Henriette Snoy', came through the winter only to have the main cane get girdled by canker and die. Since there were no new canes from the base of the plant, the plant died during the summer. Others were never vigorous, even though they survived

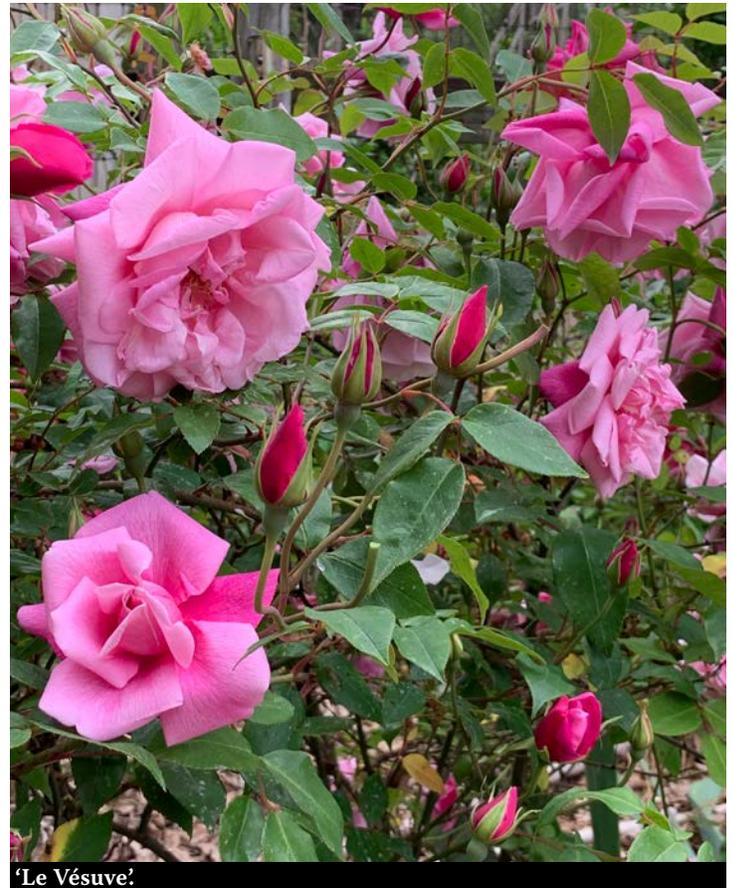
the winter. 'Général Galliéni' never grew larger than one foot. I eventually gave up on it.

Most of the tea roses are healthier than my HTs. Blackspot is by far the most prevalent rose foliar disease in our area. We rarely get rust or downy mildew and only occasionally get some powdery mildew. While there might be some blackspot on the teas, it doesn't defoliate the plant and you have to get up close to see it. Tea roses seem more apt to get powdery mildew than blackspot. New growth sometimes does get powdery mildew in the fall if we don't get enough rain.

MOST IMPORTANT TIP

The trick to growing tender roses in areas with harsher winters is to know when and how to prune them. I soon learned not to prune them at all in the early spring, a time when I normally prune my HTs and modern shrubs. I wait for new growth/canes to be a good size. Then, I prune out any dead canes (usually in late April). I also lightly prune to shape my teas during the summer months so I can walk on the garden paths without getting attacked by prickly canes.

In cold climates, if you prune your teas while they are still dormant, you will probably kill them. I killed a few



'Le Vésuve'

this way and am now leery of touching them at all until they are growing.

ONES THAT GOT AWAY

While some teas are distinctive, such as ‘Mrs. B. R. Cant’, ‘Lady Hillingdon’, ‘Madame Antione Mari’, ‘Rosette Delizy’, ‘Devoniensis’ and ‘Safrano’, to name a few from my garden, some others are harder to tell apart.

There is one family of pink teas I’ll call the ‘Madame Lombard’ type, or “pink cemetery teas.” They are tough plants, large and healthy, with “mutable” color, from white to blush to bright cherry pink, depending on the weather. My ‘Dr. Grill’ and “Georgetown Tea” look like ‘Madame Lombard’. I can’t tell them apart and so I don’t know what I really have.

Another family of teas have white with touches of pink flowers, the ‘Marie von Houtte’ group. My ‘William R. Smith’ looks the same and probably is. My ‘Mrs. Dudley Cross’ performed poorly and might have been the wrong rose for all I know.

It can be challenging getting less commonly grown roses. Only a few nurseries even carry them and some are misidentified. I tried so hard to buy certain roses, such as ‘Étoile de Lyon’, and never received them. I ended up



‘Mme. Antoine Mari’

Teas and Chinas in Nancy’s Garden

TEAS	
‘Anna Jung’	‘Maman Cochet’
‘Clementina Carbonieri’	‘Marie von Houtte’
‘Devoniensis’	Monsieur Tillier’
‘Dr. Grill’	‘Mrs. B. R. Cant’
‘G. Nabonnand’	‘Safrano’
‘Georgetown Tea’	‘William R. Smith’
‘Lady Hillingdon’	CHINAS
‘Lady Roberts’	‘Comtesse du Cayla’
‘Madame Antoine Mari’	‘Cramoisi Supérieur’
‘Madame Lombard’	‘Irène Watts’ (In Commerce As)
‘Madame Wagram’	‘Mutabilis’
	‘Le Vésuve’

with four ‘Mademoiselle Franziska Kruger’ without ever ordering it. It was sent to me as ‘Étoile de Lyon’ from a nursery which doesn’t even list ‘Mademoiselle Franziska Kruger’! Why did I want ‘Étoile de Lyon’ so badly? On page 291 in *Botanica’s Roses*—foreword by William A. Grant—it is described as the perfect rose. I saw a couple of them growing by the Tea House at the Huntington Botanic Gardens and was impressed. They were inexplicably taken out a few years ago and few nurseries seem to carry it. I’d love to try growing it.

EDITOR’S NOTE ON OVERWINTERING TEA ROSES:

Others who have tried to grow tea roses in New York have had varying degrees of success. Renowned heritage rose expert Lily Shohan grew them in Clinton Corners, New York (a few miles east of Poughkeepsie) in winter-protected pots. It may be that Nancy’s location, pruning approach and use of oak leaves for winter protection all have led to her success. In the 19th Century, nurseryman H. B. Ellwanger grew a bed of tea roses in his Rochester, New York garden. He endorsed the use of “loose litter” for winter protection. In an 1898 edition of his book, The Rose, he states, “Care must be exercised that plants be not embedded and packed down with a heavy mass, otherwise decay and death will ensue; some air will needs be admitted; the plants must be protected but not smothered.” 🌹

Celebrating Anne Belovich's Life and Legacy

ANITA CLEVENGER



Anne Belovich's formal rose garden in July 2007.



The formal rose garden recently.

Anne Belovich's legacy lives on in many ways. While her collection ran a bit wild in her last years, her farm and roses are not in jeopardy. Her son and daughter-in-law now live there, and are leading the effort to reclaim the roses from blackberry bushes and rebuild fences and other structures. They are duplicating the roses on the farm, recording who takes cuttings so that they have backup. In addition, Anne's ramblers are at Pamela and Michael Temple's Red Rose Ridge in Mendocino County, California, and at the Anne Belovich Rambler Collection at Chambersville, Texas (being moved to the American Rose Center in Shreveport, Louisiana). In many ways, Anne's collection is safer than ever.

You can find more information about Anne and her work on various websites. Floret Flower Farm has written a four-part "Rose Story" on their blog, <https://www.floretflowers.com/blog/>, which includes an interview with Anne. On another site, [annesgardens.com](https://www.annesgardens.com), you will find 11 blogs that Anne wrote before she passed. Anne's family plans to add in their own stories as farm notes as they restore the garden and continue to build family memories. David Perry wrote a beautifully illustrated article about Anne and her collection for the *American Rose* magazine in its January/February 2016 edition. He posted it at [https://davidperryphoto.myportfolio.com/the-american-](https://davidperryphoto.myportfolio.com/the-american-grande-dame-of-rambler-s)

[grande-dame-of-rambler-s](https://davidperryphoto.myportfolio.com/the-american-grande-dame-of-rambler-s).

You may join friends and family to celebrate Anne's life on Saturday, June 18, from 1 to 3 pm at her farm in western Washington. Her roses should be in full bloom. It will be an informal event with guests taking turns telling stories about their connection with Anne and Max. The family wishes to welcome everyone who knew and were inspired by her. Some people will join by Zoom. If you wish to attend, please email the family at teddie.mower@gmail.com and they will send you the address. 🌹



Anne Belovich's great-granddaughter Avery helping to clean up the formal rose garden.

Photos by Teddie Mower.

Update from the American Rose Center

PAM SMITH



Photo by Pam Smith.

Proposed structure for the Fourth Circle Garden. The structure is for illustration only, and is not the final design.

The design has been completed for the Fourth Circle of the Clockworks Garden. Comprised of 61 different roses, the list represents a spectrum of classes of heritage roses. Many of the suggestions made by the membership have been included. Much thought and collaboration went into the selection of roses to be showcased in this new garden. The full list is on our website, <https://www.heritagrosefoundation.org/>. Pam Smith and Stephen Scanniello were on-site in February to assist in the pruning of existing roses as well as finalize the selection of roses. Construction on the circle is proceeding nicely and will be completed shortly. Stephen is in the process of locating the roses which will be planted this spring. Eight structures will be included in the design, and will be installed as funds are raised. We estimate that each of the structures will cost \$3000. If you are interested in contributing, please visit <https://app.etapestry.com/onlineforms/AmericanRoseSociety/GGR.html> and specify that your gift is for the Fourth Circle. The dedication of the Third and Fourth Circles is scheduled for May 7, 2022. 🌹

Join the Heritage Rose Foundation

If you haven't yet joined or renewed your membership, now is the time. In the future, we will send this newsletter only to members. You must be a member to attend membership meetings and conferences. More importantly, your membership supports the preservation of heritage roses and to educate the public about them. Membership rates are \$45 for organizations, \$35 for individuals and \$25 for seniors over 65 and students. To check on your membership status, or for other membership questions, please contact Peggy Rose Martin, our treasurer and membership chair, at peggyrosemartin@eatel.net. You can mail your payment to PO Box 1719, Gonzales, Louisiana 70737-1719, or use PayPal. Membership form and links are at www.heritagrosefoundation.org/join-hrf. 🌹

Upcoming Heritage Rose Events

- 🌹 April/May: **Pruning days at Elizabeth Park.** Volunteers welcome. Elizabeth Park, West Hartford, Connecticut. Contact Stephen Scanniello: stephenscanniello@gmail.com
- 🌹 April 20 – May 29: **Lynchburg Old City Cemetery Antique Rose Festival & Sale.** Details on next page.
- 🌹 May 7: **Dedication of the new Fourth Circle Heritage Rose Garden.** American Rose Center, Shreveport, Louisiana.
- 🌹 May 7: **Open Garden.** Amador County Master Gardeners' Heritage Rose Garden, 1334 Jackson Gate Road, Jackson, California.
- 🌹 June 18, 1 – 3 PM: **Celebration of Anne Belovich's life.** Western Washington. Contact teddie.mower@gmail.com
- 🌹 Week of July 12 – 19: **Celebrating 125 years.** Elizabeth Park, West Hartford, Connecticut. Details to come.

Lynchburg Old City Cemetery Museums & Arboretum

27th Annual Antique Rose Festival & Sale

Lynchburg's month-long Antique Rose Festival & Sale begins on April 20 and ends on May 29. A number of exciting events are offered in conjunction with the Rose Sale, the largest in the mid-Atlantic region. Below is a schedule of those events. Please feel free to share this information with your fellow rosarians. Two of these events are the Mother's Day Rose Tour and the "Preserving Roses from the Past" talk by noted Monticello Curator of Plants, Peggy Cornett.

Roses offered for sale will be listed on their website in the near future. Please be on the lookout for that information. <https://www.gravegarden.org/>.

April 20, Wednesday, 9am-3pm

Online Rose Sale begins

check website www.gravegarden.org
continues daily through May 29, 2022

April 22, Friday, 10am-3pm

Pick-up of online orders

April 25, Monday, 10am-3pm

In-person rose sale begins

continues daily through May 29, 2022

April 26, Tuesday, 10am-5pm

Lynchburg Garden Day

Visit the hundreds of antique roses of
the OCC Rose Garden & Sale

May 1 at 3pm

Dedicate Rosarian Carl Cato's Historical Marker with Jane White

Cemetery's Bicentennial Chapel, space
is limited

May 7, Saturday, 5:30-7:30pm

Wine & Roses Garden Party

Enjoy a glass of rosé with sunset over
the 450 antique roses
Rose Tour included. \$60/person
Advance registration required*

May 8, Sunday, 3pm

Mother's Day Rose Tour – by Rosarian

Bruce Christian
Free. Advance Reservation Preferred*

***Advance registration for all events noted:
www.EventBrite.com or call 434-847-1465.**

Old City Cemetery
Museums & Arboretum

401 Taylor St.,
Lynchburg, VA 24501

434-847-1465

email: occ@gravegarden.org
www.gravegarden.org

WATERCOLOR OF ROSA MUNDI BY NANCY B. MARION

May 21, Saturday, 10am

How to Draw Flowers class for children*

taught by botanical artist Linda Murphy;
class for children (ages 8-12 years) and
their parent

\$15 for one child & parent

\$5 for each additional child

Advance reservation required*

May 19, 5:30pm

Sunset Rose Tour

History & Horticulture of Antique Roses
\$10/person, advance reservation
required.

May 22, Sunday at 3pm

Preserving Roses From the Past

presentation by Monticello Curator of
Plants Peggy Cornett

\$15/person, Advance Reservations
required*

May 29

Last day of rose sale



Mission Statement

THE HERITAGE ROSE FOUNDATION IS A 501(C)(3) NOT-FOR-PROFIT FOUNDATION WITH THIS MISSION:

- 🌹 To collect and preserve heritage roses and promote their culture.
- 🌹 To establish one or more gardens where heritage roses may be grown and displayed.
- 🌹 To conduct and contract to conduct investigations and research in heritage roses.
- 🌹 To publish and disseminate information and research about heritage roses.
- 🌹 To establish and maintain a library to facilitate investigations and research in heritage roses.
- 🌹 To foster public knowledge and appreciation of heritage roses and their preservation.

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