



Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2022

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



"St. Leonard" in Nevada City, CA.

Photo by Anita Cleveland.

From Our President: The War of the Rose Identities

STEPHEN SCANNIELLO

What's in a heritage rose name? History, tales of passion and everlasting love. War, but not always peace.

"You'll find it in Raydoot!" shouted an American nurseryman across the crowded lecture hall. The timid rosarian from France sank back into her seat after her aborted attempt to ask a question in English which was definitely not her second language. The American glared and pointed in her direction, while everyone else nervously studied the printed schedule waiting for someone from the panel to respond. The tension eased when Peter Beales, who had put together this 1997 Heritage Roses conference at Cambridge, politely added in his usual calm manner, "I'm sure he meant Redouté."

When I started my career in 1981 at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, I was cautioned by the Director emerita to not become too involved with plant societies. "Beware of the internal controversies," she warned. Well, here I am. President of the Heritage Rose Foundation. Did I hear someone say controversies? It continues to amaze me at how



“St. Leonard” in Nevada City, CA.

Photo by Anita Clevenger

many opinions are thrown into the ring when a mystery rose is discovered in an abandoned garden. And then the conclusions made without valid proof...

Thomas Christopher’s classic, *In Search of Lost Roses*, takes the reader on a fascinating journey that includes rose rustles in Texas, California’s Mother Lode country, and southern Maryland—all locations that have harbored heritage roses for a very long time.

St. Leonard is a small village in southern Maryland, very near where Mrs. Frederick Love Keays (controversy alert—KAZE) grew many found roses from her neighborhood as well as those given to her from friends and house staff. Her home was known as Creek Side. Today nothing remains of Creek Side but her roses live on in her inspiring book, *Old Garden Roses* (1935). Over the years, rose rustlers have discovered remnants of the lost gardens of Creek Side and rescued several found roses. Recently, I’ve added to the Peggy Rockefeller Rose Garden two lovely white Noisettes—‘Jeanne d’Arc’ and “St. Leonard” [sic]. I’ve watched carefully each season and have concluded that these roses are identical. ‘Jeanne d’Arc’ was a French hybrid from 1848 and “St. Leonard” was a gift from a friend of Mrs. Keays who propagated slips from an old white flowering shrub that grew in front of the St. Leonard post office. Douglas Seidel, one of the guardians of Mrs. Keays’ lost roses, introduced many heritage rose

nurseries to “St. Leonard.” Still, today many rose scholars refuse to give in to the possibility that what is sold in the U.S.A. today as ‘Jeanne d’Arc’ is the same as “St. Leonard,” and that it may not actually be the historical plant.

The Heritage Rose Foundation is adding “St. Leonard” to the Fourth Circle, the new heritage rose garden for the American Rose Center. But, the plant came to us labeled ‘Jeanne d’Arc’. How, you might wonder, did Mrs. Keays’ rose switch from post office guardian to a Saint? Perhaps you’ll find it in Raydoot. 🌹

Virtual HRF Membership Meeting

Mark your calendars for a virtual HRF membership meeting, tentatively scheduled for October 22 at 1 pm Central Standard Time. The first hour will be an educational program, open to all, presenting the heritage rose “4th Circle” of the American Rose Center’s “Clockwork Garden” in Shreveport, LA. Stephen Scanniello and several other HRF Trustees will explain the 4th Circle’s design, what roses were selected and why, and how we plan to grow them. We are planning for this to be a one-hour session, followed at 2 pm by a members’ meeting in which we will further update you on the HRF and its current and planned activities. Stand by for details about how to register and sign in! 🌹



'Sir Thomas Lipton' in Seaside Village, Bridgeport, CT.

Photo by Diego Celis.

Seaside Village's Resilient Rugosas

DIEGO CELIS

Sometimes, where you least expect them, you can find roses of great interest and beauty. Look closely.

If you spot something unusual, it might be worth collecting and growing.

—Anita Clevenger

In 2011, Hurricane Irene devastated the northeastern Atlantic coast. In 2012, Hurricane Sandy battered the area again. Massive floods killed lots of old trees and many gardens. In my community of Bridgeport, Connecticut, two found rugosa roses survived against the odds to become the face of resiliency in our place.

These roses came from Fayerweather Island, the site of an old lighthouse which is a relic of Moby Dick times. Thousands of single-flowered rugosa roses fill the island, growing in pure sand, battered by hurricanes and summer heat and drought. The plain pink has been pretty much

replaced by a darker, larger single flower that looks like 'Rubra'. There are also double forms in different heights, colors and flower shapes. The fragrance is potent in some of them. I decided to collect and trial a few double forms. The first is a creeping variety no taller than 1 foot with a spread of 3 feet. The second is a taller 3 foot x 3 foot shrub.

What is the origin of these double roses? They may be mutations, chance seedling hybrids or known commercial hybrid roses that have naturalized. Whatever they are, they are hardy, fragrant, repeat-blooming and beautiful.

Rosa rugosa, a native of northern China, Korea and Japan, was first introduced into New England in 1845. Rugosa hips or 'sea tomatoes' were a marketed fruit in the past, especially in coastal communities where orchards of rugosa roses were grown specifically for harvests. Old



“Seaside Joy.”



“Celis Rugosa.”

Photos by Diego Celis

orchards have since those days gone wild and naturalized in coastal regions. Rugosa roses are now considered invasive in New England.

The cuttings that I took rooted easily, and I planted them in the common greens and yards of the historic co-op where I live, Seaside Village. It was built in 1918 in Bridgeport, CT, to alleviate a housing shortage cause by an influx of workers during World War I. Landscaped by the Olmstead firm, it remains one of the most important examples of the “English Garden City” model in the United States. In addition to the found rugose roses, I planted many other rose varieties, including ‘Knockout’ and the

Hurricane Katrina survivor, “Peggy Martin.” Planting roses among the English-style houses was the icing on the cake. The city has awarded it several neighborhood beautification awards. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seaside_Village_Historic_District

The found rugosas grew into healthy bushes, oblivious to extreme weather. I brought two forms to show to Stephen Scanniello, the curator of the Peggy Rockefeller rose garden in the New York Botanical Rose Garden. He named the taller one “Seaside Joy” and the creeping variety “Celis Rugosa,” and deemed them both worthy of planting in the garden. 🌹

Species Rose Round Robin

DON GERS

Miriam Wilkins, whose love of old garden roses led her to start the Heritage Roses Group, embraced wild roses, too. She initiated a round robin for species roses in 1982, now in its 40th year.

The Species Rose Round Robin (SRRR) has been like potpourri, many faceted and redolent of all things Rosa. The SRRR is a packet of letters, photographs, articles, publications and seeds, my favorite. It circulates continuously among a list of members, each removing their previous letter and contribution while inserting a new one before mailing it on to the next member on the list. Members have come and gone, but you may recognize some of their names. Three members remain active today.

Here's a look back over the past 40 years. Over the decades, a plethora of topics were pondered, and I'll highlight a few.

Fragrance: "Surely roses have the most varied and some of the very best fragrance of any group of plants... hmm, I forgot scented Geraniums, which may rival in variety..." mused Dave Harding. John Starnes, working his alchemy, anointed our SRRR packet with rose fragrance, which left a trail through the mail and our homes, too!

Taste: Betty Berchtold, part of the vanguard of organic gardeners whose garden was listed on a National Register, believed the hips of *R. glauca* "the most delicious," to which I would add the Silk Rose, *R. sericea*. whose juicy,

candy gumdrop hips are also fiber-free.

"What's your six favorite species roses?" we were asked. Kristina Osborne said that her "...adventure with old [and species] roses began with *R. foetida bicolor* (Austrian Copper). Bill Grant wrote about *R. mulliganii*, "a prodigious bloomer with a profound fragrance... the perfume wafting through the house." *R. pisocarpa* topped Virginia Hopper's list: "...an earnest little rose... with multitudes of blooms and bunches of small orange-red hips...drought tolerant...yet survives part of the year submerged by the [Eel] River...makes its best show when allowed to form a large colony."

Summaries of events attended by various SRRR members were most welcome for us stay-at-homes. For example, Marlea Graham shared detailed notes for a Huntington Symposium featuring Dr. Yan Ma's talk on the species roses she studied on her travels throughout China.

The group explored the pronunciation of botanical names, such as *R. ecae*. We were impressed with Miriam's astute observation that "ecae" was an epithet created by the botanist from the initials of his wife's name, Eleanor Craig Aitchison. It had commonly been pronounced in three syllables, i.e. "ek-Kay-ee." Miriam proposed four syllables, clearly enunciating each initial and the final Latin suffix, i.e. Rosa "E", "C", "A", "ee". Brilliant!

Controversies over correct species identities



R. sericea.



R. foetida bicolor (Austrian Copper).

Photos by Don Gers.



R. nitida.

purchased from various nurseries, comparisons of features, etc., were continuing topics and sources of exasperation. In 1988, Miriam replied: “I do not take roses seriously. Fortunately there are those out there who do, like Charles Walker and his Heritage Rose Foundation which hopefully will fill in any gaps left open by the HRG. So now we are long overdue for a bit of Dave’s light-heartedness: What do you get when you cross a spiny rose with a bicycle—a flat tire.”

I can’t think of a member of the SRRR who did not express frustration at some point with species identities. Unlike rose cultivars, which are propagated vegetatively, wild species reproduce from seeds, untold multitudes of them. Charles A. Walker, Jr., founder of the Heritage Rose Foundation and co-editor of the Rosa section of *Modern Roses 9* (1986), was an early member of the SRRR. Charles explains species variation in *Modern Roses 9* where he



R. nitida double form.

wrote: “Two plants of the same cultivar can vary somewhat due to climate and culture, but two plants of the same species can vary much more. We can see differences in number of petals, color, prickliness, stature, or any of several traits—so much so that it may be hard to decide whether they are in fact members of the same species.” Rose breeders select for desirable features, but nature selects for survival. The members of the SRRR gave one another comfort when studying species, encouraging one another not to despair.

“What excitement when the package arrives!” wrote Bill Grant, who led rose tours around the world and included seeds from his travels. I grow *R. leschenaultiana* from a seed given to him by India’s Viru Viragahaven, as well as Viru’s beautiful yellow form of *R. gigantea* which also grows along the stone circle at Quarryhill (now Sonoma Botanic Garden). But a seed from Bill’s own



R. elasmacantha.



Photos by Don Cies.



R. hirtula.



garden, *R. nitida*, turned into quite a surprise. When it bloomed for the first time, the flower had 17 petals! All the other features of the bush were typical *nitida*, so here was a unique double form.

Charles Walker grew the very rare *R. elasmacantha* Trautvetter from a seed he got from Germany. He passed a root division of this plant to Miriam Wilkins, who gave me a rooted start. It's a member of the *Pimpinellifoliae* from the Caucasus Mountains between the Black and Caspian Seas. A couple of details do not match the characters of this species described by the botanist Ernst Rudolf von Trautvetter. In *The Flora of the U.S.S.R.*, the flower color is described as white. Ours is yellow. Trautvetter gave it the species epithet "*elasmacantha*" meaning "prickles like beaten metal triangular plates." On ours, these "*elasmacanth*" prickles are missing. This is the defining character! It's like having a special breed of chicken but without the feathers!

Miriam Wilkins was "flight navigator" for the SRRR. She coordinated the membership and kept it flying, prodding any who tarried too long. She could always be counted on to include rose journals from other countries.

Miriam was generous sharing divisions from her species and she had quite a diverse collection. She gave me 'Golden Chersonese', a hybrid of *R. ecae* and probably the closest I'll ever get to that rare species. She also shared *R. hirtula* (Regel) Nakai, which grows like a tree (one at the Arnold Arboretum had a trunk 10 inches in diameter in 1983). From the slopes of Mount Fuji, *hirtula* has up to nineteen leaflets per leaf, probably the most of any species. The leaves are hairy, hence "*hirtula*."

When I joined the SRRR in 1986, I wrote, "That's one of the neat things about the Robin, we are 11 pairs of eyes and ears focused on the species from 11 different perspectives sharing what we've discovered." The Round Robin is a sum of individual participation. Over the years we've shared so much: articles, newspaper clippings, photos, artwork, catalogs, poems, discussion, sympathy, encouragement and, of course, seeds. We looked forward to the packet's arrival and fretted over its delay. Today, with the internet, I'm not sure it would be the same. I'm rather old fashioned, preferring printed books and things I can hold and smell, but the internet's ease of attaching and manipulating photos and writing would be a great advantage.

When Miriam died in 2009, the six remaining members renamed the Robin in her memory, "Miriam's Rosy Round Robin." This was fitting not only because we missed her, but it now encompassed more than just species. Sadly, only three of us are active today.

Virginia Hopper lives in a remote redwood forest in a cabin above the South Fork of the Eel River in Northern California surrounded by her cherished roses, foxgloves and other beautiful perennials, vegetable and berry patches. She is beloved by OGR folks for the mail order nursery she formerly ran with her sister, Joyce Demits, for many years. Years ago, she wrote about a little species given to her by a friend in Missouri called "Pearl's Little Missouri Rose." Planted in my garden, it quickly spread into a dwarfish colony. (Virginia eventually banished it from her garden for its invasiveness.) I loved the way the shiny green leaves splotched with red in springtime,

spreading over the whole surface by midsummer. Turns out that was the key to its identity: Edward Lee Greene's *R. rudiuscula*, "the ruddy little Rose." It ended up in Ellen Willmott's *Genus Rosa* with a watercolor by Parsons, but misidentified as *R. foliolosa*, which it resembles.

"Canuck" fly fisherman Dave Harding is the last of the charter members of the SRRR. He enjoys wild roses along the streambanks of lower Ontario and the Niagara Escarpment and previously at Samuel de Champlain Provincial Park, where he worked as an interpreter. Every group needs a comedian to lighten the discourse and ours is Dave. His witticisms and grammatical invention are wonderful and entertaining. And he is a worthy poet, too, of Longfellow caliber, with his epic ballad of canoeing a remote Canadian River in an authentic birchbark canoe encountering animals, birds and spirits with an Indian guide.

The MRRR has also become a place to pass along special stories that otherwise might be lost. Dave and Virginia recently shared stories of unusual animal events. Virginia's was about a ground squirrel repeatedly

tormenting a rattlesnake, Dave wrote of chipmunks brazenly teasing dogs through a glass door and I added a story about a hummingbird riding on a stream of water from a hose in my garden in the mountains near Santa Rosa, CA. The stream carried him along for several feet when he released and flew back to the starting point, repeating his ride in the same fashion again and again. It was truly magical, a water surfing hummingbird! Clearly, he was enjoying the experience. I marveled at the hummer's panache and the sheer strength required to accomplish his white water ride.

A rose garden is a place where the unexpected can surprise and thrill you, and the ordinary becomes extraordinary. Miriam's Rosy Round Robin has been like that, too. 🌹



R. rudiuscula Greene, identified as *R. foliolosa* in *The Genus Rosa*.

Past and Present MRRR Members

- Betty Berchtold, Santa Fe, NM
- Rae Chambers, College Station, PA
- Pat Cole, Mesilla, NM
- Judi Dexter, Kent, WA
- Don Gers, Santa Rosa, CA*
- Bill Grant, Aptos, CA
- Marlea Graham, Martinez, CA
- Scott Hansen, Glendale, AZ
- Dave Harding, Amaranth, Ontario, Canada*
- Esther Henrichsen, NY
- Virginia Hopper, Branscomb, CA*
- Volker Imschweiler, Colorado
- Larry La Rue, Knoxville, TN
- Craig MacClean, Camarillo, CA
- Marion McKinsey, Sebastopol, CA
- Lyle Martinez, Corning, CA
- Ruth Mason, Lynchburg, VA
- Rosalie Osbacker, Cresco, PA
- Kristina Osborn, Albany, CA
- Joe Petta, Vashon, WA
- Elizabeth Van Sickle, Sequim, WA
- John Starnes, Tampa, FL
- Charles Walker, Jr, Raleigh, NC
- Miriam Wilkins, El Cerrito, CA

* Present member

Don't Pass Along a Pest

ANITA CLEVENGER

To preserve a rose, it needs to be grown in multiple locations. Years ago, Switzerland's Behçet Ciragan suggested a 3-3-30 preservation strategy: a rose should be grown in three public gardens, three commercial sources and 30 private gardens to ensure that it is not lost. Dr. Mark Windham, Professor Emeritus of Ornamental Plant Pathology, thinks that three public gardens are not enough because curators and budgets come and go. He recommends no less than five public gardens, scattered over the United States.

Some of the heritage roses we work to preserve are grown in far fewer places. I am one of many heritage rose lovers who passes along rare roses as widely as possible. In the former Sacramento Historic Rose Garden, where I was the curator, volunteers propagated thousands of plants that were sold to the public to raise funds and distributed to other public collections. Some of the roses were unknown, found varieties. Others were rare, known cultivars. We also sent cuttings to commercial sources. I still do this informally, encouraging people to put their rose lists into [Helpmefindroses.com](https://www.helpmefindroses.com) so that the rose world knows where they are grown.

There are two sides to passing along plants, of course: giving them away, and accepting them. We don't want to introduce devastating pests in the process.

I live in Sacramento, where we have not yet had to deal with chilli thrips or Rose Rosette Disease (RRD),

pests that are ravaging rose collections in other parts of North America, although I maintain constant vigilance and monitoring in my garden. We occasionally have small outbreaks of Japanese Beetles, which our Agriculture Commissioner pounces upon and eradicates. Agriculture is the main focus of California's efforts to stop pests. There are agricultural inspection stations at the state border, and some pests are controlled county-by-county. For example, glassy-winged-sharpshooters, which can wreak havoc on grapes and other fruits, will infest roses as well. They are in some counties, but not Sacramento. We also don't have the sorts of nematodes that live in the soil in Florida or fire ants. I don't want my well-meaning rose preservation efforts to import these and other pests into our area.

I also don't want to pass along any of our pests. One of the main problems we had with roses in the Sacramento Historic Rose Garden was crown gall, *Rhizobium tumefaciens*. This soil-borne pathogen seems to be endemic in our area, and can be transmitted to roses if damaged roots and crowns come into contact with infected soil. We watched for corky galls in the roots and crown of the roses and didn't propagate from infected plants.

We also had some roses that appear to have Rose Spring Dwarf (RSD). Not much is known about this disease, but it is said to spread slowly through heritage rose collections. We were heartbroken to observe the tell-



Chili thrips damage to leaves and canes.

Photos by Malcolm Maimers.



Rose Rosette Disease (RRD).

Photo by Mark Windham.

tale dwarfed leaves and buds on one of our favorite found roses, “Barbara’s Pasture Rose.” (It is probably the Hybrid Perpetual ‘La Reine’.) Fortunately, I purchased this rose commercially many years ago and there is no sign of RSD on my very vigorous, floriferous plant. I’ve used it as the mother plant for hundreds of healthy propagated plants.

Rose Mosaic Virus (RMV) is of less concern because it is passed along only through taking cuttings of infected plants or grafting onto infected rootstock. However, I choose not to propagate from RMV-infected plants for wide distribution, although if the plant is one-of-a-kind, I may take a few cuttings.

How do we make sure that we pass along plants safely?

The best way to add a rose to your collection is to purchase it from a commercial source that is licensed to sell in your area. This supports the nursery and protects the health of your plants.

If you are sharing your plants with others, you should first examine it carefully to ensure that it is healthy, and consider what sorts of pests you have in your garden that could be passed along to others. If a plant is available commercially, you don’t need to propagate it.

It is safest to share budwood or cuttings without leaves. I usually swish them through a weak bleach or Physan solution. This may not be enough. Dr. Malcolm Manners, whose Lakeland, Florida gardens have not yet been infected with RRD, will no longer accept any rose material from infected areas out of concern that the mites

and their eggs could still survive in the buds of the plants. Dr. Windham agrees that this is a good policy for anybody who lives in an area where RRD is not yet established.

If you want to share a rooted plant, the safest thing to do is to remove the leaves and bare-root it, washing off all soil from the roots. Roses are tough, and nearly all will rebound quickly. Again, swishing the plant and roots through disinfectant is a good idea.

If you must pass along a plant in soil, try to propagate as safely as possible, using soilless mixes to reduce soil-borne pathogens. For the Historic Rose Garden sales, we chose healthy mother plants, propagated in sterilized perlite on mist tables, used clean potting soil and disinfected our tools and pots. We considered treating cuttings with crown gall preventive products (there are two available, Nogall and Galltol, biological controls, which infect the plant with a non-pathogenic form of the bacterium, acting rather like a vaccine), but they are expensive and perishable products, not geared for small-scale efforts. When we hardened off plants for the sale, we did not put their pots in contact with the soil. We couldn’t guarantee the health of our plants, but we did our best.

One of the most fun parts of growing heritage roses is getting them from a friend or at a plant sale. Our gardens are full of reminders of the people and places who shared their plants. To preserve roses, we need to both give and receive. Just do it mindfully and try not to pass along a pest. No matter what the source, keep a close watch when adding a rose to your collection. 🌹



Photos by Anita Clevenger.

Rose Preservation in Southern California

JOHN BAGNASCO

At the Huntington Heritage Rose Foundation Conference in 2016, I spoke about my efforts with the California Coastal Rose Society to preserve rare roses. We have been collecting scarce roses, propagating them and offering them at an annual auction for 22 years now. The auction is live, but online bids are accepted for shipping around the country.

The pandemic forced a break in the live auction, but we were able to conduct a rose auction this spring. It went so well that we are planning to do something exciting in the fall. This auction will be held in conjunction with the Coastal and San Diego Rose Societies' Fall Rose Show on October 29 and 30. San Diego's late Bob Martin, past president of the American Rose Society, was a big supporter of the auction and made presentations every year. While he was president of the ARS, he was able to add "preservation" to their Mission Statement.

In that spirit, this fall's rose event will feature talks about rose preservation. Gregg Lowery, Curator of the Friends of Vintage Roses, who will tell about their ongoing efforts to develop "A Time Capsule of Roses." Anita Clevenger, former curator of the Sacramento Historic Rose Garden, will give a presentation on her new endeavor to preserve historic roses. Also, Burling Leong will be presenting her new rose 'Marion Ross' to its actress namesake who will be celebrating her 94th birthday! Assuming she's well enough, there will be birthday cake for all and the opportunity to bid on the new rose.

More info: <https://www.ccrsauction.com/index.php>

The rose show will include a schedule with a Preservation Section, which we hope will encourage exhibitors and heritage enthusiasts to work more closely. Classes include:

- **Lost and Found:** A class for any "found" rose. The variety needs to be listed in HMF with double quotes around the name, like "Benny Lopez." Judging criteria would be true to type.
- **Sports Arena:** Any rose that is a sport of another. Any class.
- **Around the World.** Three HT's of different varieties from breeders in countries outside the US. Need not be exhibition form, but true to type.

- **Breeders Cup:** Three stems in one vase of different varieties from one breeder. May be different classes.
- **Before There Was Peace:** One stem of an HT introduced prior to 1945.
- **Sweet Hips:** One spray of rose hips. Must be showing color. Judged on visual appeal.

How have the roses for these auctions been collected? Some of the sources are overseas. Before John and Becky Hook sold their French nursery, Roseraie du Désert, I was able to import roses that they started for cuttings at the Budateteny Rose Garden in Hungary. We also were able to bring some of their rare chinas and teas into this country. Unfortunately, I lost over half of the

CALIFORNIA COASTAL ROSE SOCIETY & SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY FALL ROSE SHOW & AUCTION

El Corazon Oceanside Senior Center
3302 Senior Center Drive
Oceanside, California 92054

Saturday, October 29, 2022

Rose Show and Silent Auction

Open 1:30 pm–5:30 pm

Sunday, October 30, 2022

Rose Show and Silent Auction

Open at 10:00 am

Silent Auction closes at 12:30 pm

Rose Show Awards 1:30 pm

Live Auction 2:00 pm

Show and Live Auction closes at 3:00 pm

All amateurs are invited to exhibit their roses.

The exhibit hall will be open to the public upon completion of judging, estimated to be 1:30 pm Saturday, and will remain open until 5:00 pm.

We thank all those who generously contribute gifts of effort, donations or sponsorship.



'Joanna Millar'

last shipment from them, but at least there are some that survived. Becky seemed to really like a rose called 'Villa Borghese' and I am intrigued by a 1931 rose from Spain called 'Toreski'. It is a cross between 'Perle d'Or' × 'Antoine Rivoire'. It is still small and is more polyantha-looking than floribunda at this point. Another intriguing rose from the Hooks is the 'Joanna Millar' rose.

Joanna's stepson, John Fitzhugh Millar, sent me an email stating that many years ago, Joanna was visiting the famous horticultural gardens of La Mortola in Ventimiglia, just on the Italian side of the border with France, when she spotted an unusual rose. No one seemed in a position to answer any of her questions about where it came from or who bred it, and there was no one to ask about taking cuttings. So, she surreptitiously took a few cuttings. One of them survived and took root in her garden at Le Prieure. It has since climbed all the way to the top of an evergreen tree. More recently, she returned to La Mortola, and there was no sign of the rose there at all. She believes that her example is therefore the only survivor of the original in the world, and so she has tried to spread it around as much as possible. Fittingly, it was named after her.

'Joanna Millar' will be one of the roses offered in the auction.

Saving roses is an endless task and sometimes I wonder if it's futile. But, I was really excited to get an email from Sangerhausen a few weeks ago asking if I could send them budwood for 4 varieties that they had lost, after they discovered that I was growing them through my garden's listing on Helpmefind. I sent them 'Candleglow' and 'William Orr' from the Hybrid Tea collection that we are curating for the Friends of Vintage Roses, as well as 'Frolic' and 'Yuletide'. They received the budwood in good condition. I'd love to develop a working relationship with them, if I can only get the USDA to be reasonable on their Import requirements. My initial effort to import 80 roses from them has not been successful, but the possibilities for cooperative preservation are very exciting.

EDITOR'S NOTE

According to Helpmefind, 'Joanna Millar' is thought to be a hybrid between R. gigantea and R. banksiae, an intriguing ancestry. England's Martyn Rix obtained this rose from Joanna, who passed cuttings along to Helga Bricchet in Italy, who in turn sent it to John Hook. This is another example of a rose that survives only by being alertly spotted, collected and passed around. 🌹

Photo by John Bagnasco.



Clockwise from top left: Trellis prototype; garden view; Pam Smith speaking at dedication on May 7; spectators.

4th Circle Update: Heritage Roses in America's Rose Garden

PAM SMITH

On a beautiful weekend in Shreveport, LA, the ribbon cutting ceremony was held to mark the dedication of the Franks Garden in America's Rose Garden at the American Rose Center. This fourth and largest circle of the Great Garden Restoration was made possible by a generous grant from the Alta & John Franks Foundation. The Heritage Rose Foundation took the lead in selecting, procuring and placing the roses.

In total, 121 roses representing 10 classes of heritage roses were planted. An additional twenty roses will be planted this fall to complete the garden planting. Not only will visitors to the garden be treated to beautiful and fragrant roses, the hope is that they will see the beauty found in these plants and incorporate heritage roses into their gardens. And as that happens, they will delve further into their history, catch the excitement and help in the preservation of jewels that were the backbone of gardens

around the world.

As the roses grow in, the next step is to create and install the trellises to give the garden a vertical dimension. The Board of Trustees for the HRF has voted to fund this endeavor in the amount of \$6,000. This will be combined with funds from the American Rose Center. Rick and Sharrie Ely will oversee the fabrication of the structure. The actual installation of the trellises will occur in winter as part of a work day.

This has been a great collaboration between the Heritage Rose Foundation and the American Rose Society. While many have been involved, a very special shout-out to Marilyn Wellan for her tireless efforts in seeing this garden from conception to dedication. As with all gardens, continued support is essential to its success. Please visit and spread the word. 🌹

Photos by Pam Smith.

Anne Belovich Ramblers Update, August 2022

CLAUDE GRAVES, CHAIR ARC COMMITTEE, AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY

In past newsletters, I have written about the plans to close the Chambersville Tree Farm and our efforts to replicate its Anne Belovich Rambler Collection at the American Rose Center (ARC) in Shreveport, LA. We presently have one specially designed nursery facility at the ARC in Shreveport, LA, to grow out a portion of the collection. This nursery is set up to grow 200 ramblers and currently houses 190 plants, each of a different variety. These roses were rooted at Chambersville Tree Farms in June of 2021. Additional (planned for) growing positions will be added to this nursery this fall to bring the total capacity to 230 ramblers. The construction of Nursery #1 was funded by a donation from the Heritage Rose Foundation.

Construction has begun on the conversion of another unused trial garden at the ARC to convert it into a smaller duplicate of Nursery #1. Nursery #2 will have a capacity of 120 ramblers and bring the total number of growing positions to 350. The ramblers for these additional spaces are currently being rooted at Chambersville. Later this fall, the rooted roses will be moved from Chambersville to the American Rose Center. I anticipate we will move about 120 new varieties to Shreveport,

bringing the inventory growing at the ARC to about 310 varieties. The empty 40 spaces represent varieties we never received and those we have lost over the last 12 years. Some were lost to Rose Rosette Disease but most were lost as a result of the “100 year freeze” we experienced in February of 2021. A table of the roses we have lost from the collection is included with this article.

The ramblers in the nursery at the ARC are being maintained by an amazing team of volunteers from the Northwest Louisiana Master Gardeners. I conduct training once a month, every month, to train new Master Gardener volunteers on the special procedures we use in growing out the ramblers on 10 foot poles. The goal was to build a trained core of 30 volunteers from which a crew or crews could be drawn each monthly work session. Larry Williams the MG Coordinator of the project has advised me that we currently have 38 trained volunteers. I am extremely grateful for the support that the Master Gardeners have given the project to save Anne’s valuable rambler collection.

In addition to the “baby” ramblers in the nurseries we currently have 19 large ramblers growing in the gardens at America’s Rose Garden. Six varieties are

growing on towers on the entry driveway. Four are growing on towers in the McFarland Plaza entrance to the new Clockworks Gardens, Great Garden Restoration Project, and nine varieties on a 90 foot long 10 foot high tennis fence in the Secret Garden.

A Pilot Garden of an additional 12 towers has been authorized to be built this fall adjacent to the Clockworks Circles to develop data on the time and labor necessary to care for these large roses growing on towers. The



Master Gardeners, left to right; John Todd, Robert Pickard, Candy Procell, Janel Edwards, Melisa Elrod, Sarah Nadeau, Pam Bradley (ARC volunteer), and William Hartman.

Photo by Claude Graves.

ARC garden staff and most of the ARS Board of Directors have little or no experience maintaining ramblers and this test garden is to demonstrate the procedures and techniques we developed at Chambersville to maintain the ramblers at a minimal labor cost. The labor cost records developed in this test garden will determine the extent of any future Rambler gardens at America's Rose Garden.

The 12 towers in the Pilot Garden will be planted this fall with LARGE ramblers from the inventory at Chambersville. The 12 large ramblers will allow us to start taking meaningful data immediately in this test garden without waiting two or more years for the roses to mature.

Over the years at Chambersville, we developed some rather unique procedures to maintain the ramblers in a controlled, attractive condition with minimized expense. The Pilot Garden will be built to replicate, on a smaller scale, the gardens at Chambersville.

So, all is well with the ARC project to save Anne Belovich's Ramblers. Many of the missing roses from our collection are not unusual varieties. Many of you may be growing these varieties. If you would like to send a cutting of your rose to fill in our collection, I would be very grateful. I am losing my propagation facility with the closing of Chambersville. Fortunately, rose hybridizer Steve Roussell in Lake Charles LA has a state-of-the-art

misting facility and has agreed to root cuttings for us. Please contact me at claudes.graves@twc.com for more information to coordinate sending cuttings. 🌹



Photo by Claude Graves.

Ramblers Needed for the Anne Belovich Collection at the American Rose Center

NAME	HYBRIDIZER	INTRO
Aglaia (Yellow Rambler)	Schmidt	1896
Apricot Glow	Brownell	1936
Aviateur Bleriot	Faugue et fils	1910
Ayrshire Splendens (Splendens)	unknown	1835
Belle Portugaise	Henri Cayeux	1903
Bess Lovett	Van Fleet	1915
Bocca Negra	Dubreuil	1910
Daniel Lacombe	Allard	1885
Diabolo	Fauque	1908
Edgar Andreu	Barbier	1912
Flower of Fairfield	Ludorf	1909
Gruss an Breinegg	Alfons	1925
Gypsy Boy	Geschwind	1909
Madeleine Selzer	Walter	1926
Marie Gouchault	Turbat	1927

NAME	HYBRIDIZER	INTRO
Max Graf	Bowditch	1919
Minnehaha	Walsh	1905
Olivet	Vigneron	1892
Papa Rouillard	Turbat	1923
Philadelphia Rambler	Van Fleet	1904
Phyllis Bide	S. Bide & Sons	1923
Pink Van Fleet (Bess Lovett)	Van Fleet	1905
Primevere	Barbier	1929
Psyche	Paul	1898
Purezza	Mansuino	1961
<i>Rosa longicuspis var. mulliganii</i>	unknown	1904
Rose Marie Viaud	Igoult	1924
Shenandoah	Nicolas	1935
Tausendschön	Schmidt	1906
Wedding Day	Stern	1950



Left to right: 'Arnold'; tray of 25 'Arnold' cuttings rooting in the Florida Southern College mist bed.

Update on 'Arnold'

MALCOLM MANNERS

As readers of a previous HRF newsletter will recall, we learned about the hybrid rugosa rose 'Arnold' at our conference in 2017, in Fredericksburg, Virginia. It was thought perhaps to be extinct. In the next newsletter, we put out a plea to the readers, asking if anyone knew of an extant plant. There were no replies.

But then in 2021, HRF trustee Anita Clevenger visited the garden of Don Gers and Michael Tallman, in northern California, and there, realized that they were growing 'Arnold'! (see the article in our September 2021 newsletter). Don sent cuttings to me, and we've been propagating it since. We have sent plants to Arnold Arboretum for planting as part of their Rosaceae collection and to California's San Jose Heritage Rose Garden. Plants now grow in the Peggy Rockefeller Rose Garden in New York Botanical Garden as well as the Heritage Rose

Garden at Elizabeth Park in West Hartford, CT. We've given it to five nurseries in Ohio, Colorado and Florida, and have promised it to another in California. (Nurseries—if we've not yet discussed this and you'd like to receive a stock plant of it, let me know! I want to distribute it to as many rose nurseries as are interested.)

We've found that it roots very quickly and easily, something I can't say for some of the other rugosas that I've tried. To date, we have about 8 stock plants (in 1- and 2-gallon pots), and have rooted or are rooting more than 50 cuttings from those. It seems to be vigorous and healthy in all the locations it has been sent.

So be on the lookout with your favorite heritage rose nurseries, or check [Helpmefind.com/roses](https://www.helpmefind.com/roses) for availability. We expect that 'Arnold' plants will be available at the May ARS Convention in Shreveport, too. 🌹

Photo by Anita Clevenger left and Malcolm Manners, right.

HRF Convention in Shreveport, Louisiana

The Heritage Rose Foundation will be participating in the 2023 American Rose Society Convention on May 5–7th, 2023, to be held at the American Rose Center (ARC) in Shreveport, LA. HRF President, Stephen Scanniello, will be one of the speakers. Heritage roses, including found roses, will be on display. HRF members are welcome to bring samples of their old roses for identification. Back issues of *Rosa Mundi* will be available for purchase and heritage roses will be sold by vendors. Join us as we introduce the 4th Circle, a garden of heritage roses which HRF Trustee Pam Smith designed and curated as our contribution to the Great Garden Restoration. Also on the agenda: The HRF is tentatively planning to hold its 2023 membership meeting at this time. Details will be announced shortly. Mark your calendars! 🌹

Rosa Belgica 2023



As the world shut down for COVID-19, one of the lost opportunities was the International Heritage Rose Conference which the World Federation of Rose Societies planned to hold in Belgium in

June, 2020. Plans are underway to hold this conference three years later, with pre-conference tours from June 2–5, the main conference June 5–9, and a post-conference tour to Switzerland June 10–15. (Details for the post-conference tour are still to be announced.)

We all know that everything in this world can change, but let's hope that this occurs as planned, with an opportunity to see some wonderful gardens, connect with heritage rose lovers from around the world, and learn some new things.

Information at <https://www.rosabelgica2020.com/>

Rose Rosette Disease Update Podcast

Dr. Mark Windham recently provided a Rose Rosette Disease Update on Rose Chat Podcast. You can listen at <https://rosechat.podbean.com/> 🌹



The Friends of Vintage Roses Activities

The non-profit group, The Friends of Vintage Roses (TFoVR), exists to preserve and enhance the collection of historic roses developed by Gregg Lowery and Phillip Robinson, former owners of the Sebastopol, CA, nursery, Vintage Gardens.

Among its many activities, TFoVR propagates roses for periodic sales, presents workshops, and hosts volunteer "Dirt Days." Remaining 2022 events are:

- **Workshop on Rose Propagation**
Sunday, September 18, 10 am–2 pm. Bring a bag lunch!
Free to Guardians of the Rose, \$25 for all others.
- **Workshop on Rose Care and Planting**
Sunday, October 23, 10 am–2 pm. Bring a bag lunch!
Free to Guardians of the Rose, \$25 for all others.
- **Dirt Day**
Sunday, November 13, 10 am–2 pm. Bring a bag lunch!

To attend events or volunteer, please email volunteercoordinator@thefriendsofvintageroses.org
More info at <https://thefriendsofvintageroses.org/> 🌹

Amador County Open Garden & Rose Sale

You are invited to join the Amador County Master Gardeners' Heritage Rose Team on Saturday, September 17, from 10 am till noon, for their final open garden day. Not only will you be able to tour the Heritage Rose Garden, they will be selling more than 20 varieties of heritage roses and old favorites that they have propagated. Prices will range from \$5 to \$20. Please bring cash or checks. Sorry, no credit cards can be accepted, and there are no pre-orders.

The garden is at 1334 Jackson Gate Road, Jackson, CA, 95642.

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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