

As you've likely noticed, you have not received a newsletter from the Heritage Rose Foundation in some time. President Charles Walker has been overwhelmed with job changes, a change in residence, and other issues, and has decided that he must resign from his administrative duties with the Foundation. We owe Charles an immense debt of gratitude for his dream of founding and developing the HRF, his dedication to seeking out the truth about rose history, as opposed to the more common hearsay and assumption, and his ideals of publishing a truly top-notch publication. Also, he has worked diligently to keep the Foundation true to its stated goals and ideals. We surely hope that Charles will continue to be an active member of and participant in the HRF.

The Board of Trustees is committed to keeping the Foundation active and viable, and to its improvement. Stephen Scanniello has agreed to continue as chairman of the board, and Malcolm Manners has agreed to edit the newsletter. Other board members have expressed their willingness to take on the necessary tasks to move the organization forward.

Our 2000 annual meeting is to be held in Charleston, South Carolina, in conjunction with the 9th International Heritage Rose Conference, being organized by Ruth Knopf and others in the Charleston area. Details of that meeting are included in this newsletter. We hope you'll consider attending that event, which will bring old-rose lovers from around the world. Previous conferences have been in Lyon France, Cambridge England, the Huntington (California), Australia, and New Zealand. This conference very appropriately has the Noisette class of roses as its theme — their history, classification, culture, etc.

We also have tentative plans to hold our 2001 meeting in Lakeland Florida, the meeting to be coordinated by Malcolm Manners. A few of you attended the previous Lakeland meeting, which was in 1991. This time, we plan again to emphasize methods of propagating heritage roses, and also to devote a substantial part of the meeting to Bermuda's "mystery" roses, which are now being grown throughout the warmer areas of the US.

In this time of reorganizing for the Heritage Rose Foundation, we hope you will continue to be a part of us, participating in our meetings, contributing original articles to the newsletter, and working toward the preservation of heritage roses in whatever capacity you can.

The following is the official press release concerning the Charleston Conference.

9th International Heritage Rose Conference
October 14-18, 2001
Charleston South Carolina

The International Heritage Rose Conference is a biennial convocation of the professional and amateur rose gardeners from around the world. Charleston is America's most beautifully preserved architectural and historic treasure, with a rich 300 year history. The Conference will be centered in the historic district. The presentations by internationally known speakers will focus on the Noisette rose, the first class of rose to be developed in America. Our host, Ruth Knopf, and our Honorary Chairman, Mrs. Joseph H. McGee, invite you to Charleston, South Carolina in October, 2001.

Come and enjoy one of America's oldest, most beautiful, and best preserved cities. This gracious old port abounds in historic sites, restaurants, shops, gardens, churches, and lovely neighborhoods. The old city is small and easily accessible by foot, so bring your walking shoes and explore Charleston's charming streets and alleys. The downtown area is served by public buses. A car in the downtown area is a liability, not an asset. Should you wish to explore areas outside the city before or after the conference, there is a car rental close by.

ARRIVAL

By Air: Charleston International Airport offers service from all major U.S. cities. Reasonably priced van service to town is available at the airport and does not have to be scheduled in advance.

By Car: Interstate Highway I-26 originates in Charleston; from I-26 access is available to I-20, I-40, I-77, I-85, and I-95. U.S. Highway 17, the coastal north-south route, runs through Charleston where it intersects with I-26. Follow signs to the historic district via Meeting or King Streets. The host hotel, The Westin Francis Marion, is on the corner of King and Calhoun Streets. The Holiday Inn is on the corner of Meeting and Calhoun Streets.

By Rail: AMTRAK provides passenger service to Charleston. Excursion rates can be obtained by making advance reservations. Taxi service to town is available at the station and does not have to be scheduled in advance. For those of you coming from other countries, keep in mind that distances between cities are huge, and you may prefer to fly.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2001

Speakers and Early Participants arrive. EVENING ON YOUR OWN.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2001

10:00 am - 6:00 pm Registration, Front Lobby Westin Francis Marion Hotel. 10:00 am - 6:00 pm Bookstore Open, Mezzanine. 2:00 - 5:00 pm, Bus Tour of Charleston for Conference Participants. 6:00 pm - 7:00, Champagne Reception, Gold Room, Westin Francis Marion. DINNER ON YOUR OWN. 7:30 pm Dinner for Speakers at 31 East Bay Street.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2001

8:00 am - 9:00 am Late Registration, Westin Francis Marion Hotel Mezzanine --
Bookstore open 8:00 am - 2:00 pm. 9:00 am - 12:30 pm Morning Conference Session
Speakers: John Meffert: Charleston at the time of John Champneys and Phillipe
Noisette. Ruth Knopf and Greg Lowery: The Old Noisette Roses -- What They
Were and How They Were Discovered. Marie Butler and Malcolm Manners:
Rediscovering the Musk Rose, Ancient Parent of the Noisette. Greg Grant: Old
Blush and China Roses, Made for the Southern Garden.

Hampton Park (Board Buses at 12:45, Westin Francis Marion Hotel) Picnic, Lecture
and tour of Experimental Gardens at Hampton Park. Speaker: Malcolm Manners:
Observations of the Noisette Study Garden. 4:30 pm Return to Westin Francis
Marion Hotel. 7:30 pm Dinner and Lecture, Westin Francis Marion, Colonial
Room. Speaker: Gwen Fagen: Teas, Chinas and Noisettes at the Cape of Good
Hope.