



Illustration of the rose '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.

Heritage Rose Foundation Newsletter

September, 2014

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Letter from HRF President Stephen Scanniello

As I write this letter there's only a month left to summer, a summer that started with an inspiring celebration of one of the greatest rosarians of our lifetime — Graham Stuart Thomas. Over three days, June 23–25, the Heritage Rose Foundation paid tribute to the work of Mr. Thomas

with our conference “In the Footsteps of a Master: Graham Stuart Thomas.” The magnificent gardens of England's Mottisfont Abbey, created by Mr. Thomas, were the centerpiece of the event. A day of lectures, in-depth tours of the gardens of Mottisfont Abbey, and tours of nearby Hinton Ampner and Loseley Park, made this gathering a truly memorable event.

Our symposium was more than a tribute to Mr. Thomas and his rose preservation accomplishments; it was a celebration of the legacy of Graham Stuart Thomas, not just with seasoned speakers, but with new, young gardeners who are continuing Mr. Thomas's work of rose preservation into the 21st Century. The lectures included presentations from England, Sardinia, India, the United States, and Australia — all illustrating how Thomas's work continues to inspire gardeners old and new throughout the world. An added bonus to our program was the witnessing of the passing of the Mottisfont Head Gardener title from David Stone, AHRHS (retiring after 36 years of service) to Jonny Bass, Winston Churchill Memorial Trust Fellow.

For those of you who missed our conference, you can read all about it in the detailed eyewitness account featured in this newsletter, written by Australian rosarians Pat Toolan and Billy West.

The Mottisfont conference wouldn't have been possible without the meticulous work of “Team Mottisfont,” headed by

Joan Taylor. Working with Joan were David Stone, who masterminded "Mottisfont Day," Jon Dodson, Katja Zerna, who organized the presentations for the conference, Viktoria Gal, who produced the slide show photo collage of "Mottisfont throughout the Year," Sheila Cowap, who produced the beautiful flower displays that decorated the conference room, and Jonny Bass as well as numerous volunteers and gardeners from Mottisfont Abbey. Joan and her crew turned our conference into a first-class event. Thank you Team Mottisfont!

We're hoping for lightning to strike twice. Join us in New Orleans November 12-16 for our next conference, **Preserving Our Antebellum History of Roses**, hosted by the New Orleans Old Rose Society. This event will include interesting speakers, tours of historic plantations, the roses of Armstrong Park, and special tours of private gardens of the French Quarter. Details of this conference, as well as registration information, are below and on our website.

I look forward to seeing everyone in November!

Details of the New Orleans Conference

Preserving Our Antebellum History of Roses in Louisiana

Heritage Rose Foundation Conference
In New Orleans, LA. November 12-16, 2014

To be held at the Maison Dupuy Hotel in the French Quarter at 1001 Rue Toulouse, New Orleans, LA 70112. Call 1-800-535-9177 to request Heritage Rose Foundation room reservations special rate starting on Wednesday, Nov. 12 through Sunday Nov. 16.

Thursday, Nov. 13th — Plantation bus tour. 8:00 AM. Peggy Martin's home and garden tour, Gonzales, LA, with mint juleps to start the day. Then on to Houmas House Plantation on the Mississippi River, rivaling gardens in Europe. Home and garden tour, lunch provided. Next to world-famous Oak Alley Plantation for home and garden tour. Last is Laura Plantation, a long-working plantation with old garden roses.

Thursday evening, Nov. 13, 7:30 PM
Reception with buffet dinner at Maison Dupuy courtyard.

Friday Nov. 14, 10:00 AM. Walking tour to Armstrong Park rose garden on Rampart Street. Very large collection of old Teas and climbers, Noisettes, and an almost complete collection of Hybrid Musk roses. Leo Watermeier, curator, will lead the tours. Lunch at Bistreaux Restaurant in Maison Dupuy Hotel. Then in the afternoon we tour private courtyard gardens in the French Quarter. Roses will be for sale all day at the hotel, and silent auction items will also be displayed.

Friday evening, Nov. 14. Dinner on your own in the French Quarter to experience the wonderful cuisine available in many world-famous restaurants. A restaurant list and advance reservation information will be provided.

Saturday, Nov. 15. 8:30 AM
Registration desk opens at Maison Dupuy. Continental breakfast provided. The Theatre Meeting Room for the conference is off the courtyard.

9:00 AM Welcome by Stephen Scanniello, President of the Heritage Rose Foundation.

9:30 AM Peggy Martin "Our Antebellum History of Roses in Louisiana"

10:30 AM Leo Watermeier, curator of Armstrong Park Rose Garden. "Wonderful Roses of Armstrong Park."

11:30 Box lunch served in the courtyard of Maison Dupuy Hotel

12:30 PM John Walsh-Turner, Preservationist of Historical Landscaping — "Valcour-Aime's Lost Garden and Plantation — Le Petite Versailles"

1:30 PM Julie Ardoyne — Pictures, Artifacts and Journals from "Le Petite Versailles," where Julie lived with her parents in the overseer's cottage.

2:00 PM Trisha Aleshire — horticulturist for many years and now manager of the famous Rosedown Plantation of Martha Turnbull in St. Francisville, LA, circa 1840. "Roses and Flora of Rosedown Plantation"

3:00 PM Membership meeting of the Heritage Rose Foundation

3:30 PM Live auction of roses, books, pictures, etc.

4:30 PM Silent auction closes

Saturday evening — dinner on your own, again to experience world-famous restaurants. There is a restaurant in Maison Dupuy, "Le Meritage," that specializes in Southern Coastal cuisine if you prefer.

Sunday Nov. 16. 10:00 AM Heritage Rose Foundation Board Meeting.
All functions will be held in Maison Dupuy Hotel complex, except for the bus tour and walking tours, so no rental car

will be needed unless you plan to venture far out of the French Quarter.

There is a valet parking fee daily for cars.

CONFERENCE PRICING:

\$150 per person, Members / Non-members \$185 (includes a one-year membership) — Includes Thursday evening dinner and all Friday and Saturday events. Does NOT include the bus tour. \$25 surcharge after November 1.

A-la-carte for Saturday, Nov 15 **only** — Conference lectures, lunch — \$75 per person members / non-members \$110 (includes one-year membership). \$25 surcharge after November 1.

Plantation Bus Tour Nov. 13: \$125

Registration and payment may be mailed to:

Peggy Martin, Treasurer
Heritage Rose Foundation
PO Box 1719
Gonzales LA 70707

Or if you prefer, you may register online at www.heritagerosefoundation.org
Confirmations will be sent by mail.

Note from Peggy Martin, Host of the New Orleans Meeting

I am so looking forward to finally meeting you at our conference in New Orleans; we have had correspondence and emails in the past, but now I can speak and visit with you face to face. So many of you are old friends, and we will have the opportunity to again enjoy the camaraderie and fun we have had at past conferences.

I have put a lot of work into this itinerary, wishing you to experience the fullest enjoyment of what our New Orleans gardens, culture, historic architecture and food have to offer (great French Quarter night life too!). The plantation bus tour is comprehensive, as we view and experience a gourmet luncheon at fabulous "Houmas House" and the fantastic gardens. Pam Smith has photos of her recent visit there; she has posted to Facebook and the Foundation website.

We will be stopping first at my home and garden, which is three miles before Houmas House, and have drinks and coffee there. You will see the collection of 160 roses that were given to me after Hurricane Katrina, plus more that I have added.

After lunch we cross the mighty Mississippi River and travel a short distance to Oak Alley, which is world famous for its enormous oak allée. We then proceed on down the river to "Laura Plantation," which was a long-working cane farm, having a collection of old roses and native plants. At all sights you will tour the antebellum homes too. Travel time is 45 minutes to my home and probably 35 minutes back to the hotel.

Laissez les bon temps rouler (Let the good times roll)!

(Australian) Reflections on the HRF Mottisfont conference: "In the Footsteps of a Master"
Pat Toolan and Billy West

Rose lovers from around the world came together in Winchester in June 2014 for the Heritage Rose Foundation conference: In The Footsteps of a Master: Graham Stuart Thomas, Mottisfont Abbey, England, June 23-25, 2014.

This conference brought together rose lovers from around the world to honour the unassuming, but oh-so-talented and inspiring David Stone on the occasion of his retirement after 36 years as Head Gardener at Mottisfont Abbey, and to welcome young, vibrant Jonny Bass as the next Head Gardener.



Jonny Bass and David Stone

Participants came from the USA, India, Sardinia, New Zealand and Australia for this very special event, and the UK contingent included gardeners from Hidcote, Sissinghurst Castle and the Red House, as well as the General Manager (Paul Cook), gardeners and volunteers from Mottisfont. All delegates were passionate about old roses and their conservation, and the enthusiasm was contagious.

The overall impression of the conference was that like-minded heritage rose lovers had come to enjoy themselves – resulting in the friendliest, most easy-going conference where old friends took up where they left off, and new friendships were forged.

The first day was held at the conference venue, Holiday Inn Winchester, with speakers including David Stone, Jonny Bass, John Wood, Maurizio Usai, Peter Boyd, and Stephen Scanniello.

David Stone reflected on his years as Head Gardener at Mottisfont — first in the shadow of Graham Stuart Thomas, on a steep learning curve, and then with full responsibility for maintaining and extending the uniquely important garden of old roses and companion plants first established within the beautiful walls at Mottisfont Abbey in the early 1970s. Over this time it has become a Mecca for lovers of old roses and lovers of roses grown with wonderful companion plants — truly “A garden of international importance and reputation, it remains the most complete and compelling statement of Graham Stuart Thomas’ planting philosophy and gardening genius.” (from *A Brief History of the Site*, National Trust.) We heard many anecdotes about Graham Thomas, and one such was that on a visit to the rose garden, GST noticed all the alliums David had planted. GST did not mention them on the day, and it was only later, in private, that he referred to them as an onion patch.

Jonny Bass spoke about his Churchill Fellowship to New Zealand and the United States. He paid tribute to David Stone, acknowledging the magnitude of the job and the large shoes he was about to step into. While relatively young to hold the reins of this world-renowned rose garden, we can be assured of Jonny’s energy and enthusiasm, and that he has the love of the old roses at heart.

John Wood, another impressive young man, is head gardener at Hinton Ampner, a Hampshire country manor with extensive and very lovely gardens now owned by the National Trust. John trained at Mottisfont under David Stone. In his presentation, we were given a glimpse of his knowledge of roses and other plants and his skill in planting them in harmonious combinations. These were to be reflected in reality when we visited

Hinton Ampner on the following Wednesday.

Maurizio Usai, who is a young garden designer and landscape architect from Sardinia, showed us his family’s home garden which he has been redesigning. Inspired by the beautiful perennial borders in the UK, Maurizio wanted to recreate a similar feeling, using plants that would survive the harsher climate in Sardinia. He has certainly used plant combinations to great effect, and all were impressed by his plant knowledge and his talent, artistry and skills.

Peter Boyd gave us an insight into Scots roses and related cultivars of *Rosa spinosissima*. We are all eagerly awaiting the publication of his book.

In between these speakers we were treated to short presentations by a number of Heritage Rose Foundation members, including the extraordinary Pamela Temple who, with husband Michael, has created a garden of such great beauty on steep terrain in the northern Californian hills. Many rare Ramblers have found a safe home in Pamela’s garden, and despite drought and deer, she is planning to make a place for many more of Anne Belovich’s Rambler collection.

Malcolm Manners spoke about the valuable DNA analysis of roses, which is helping to unravel old mysteries and finally settle old arguments, such as the relationship of the rose grown as “Maggie” in the US, “Pacific” in Bermuda, “Kakinada Red” in India, and ‘Mme. Eugene E. Marlitt’ as grown at Sangerhausen (they are the same rose), and the relationship of the rose often sold under the incorrect name ‘Bloomfield Abundance’ (i.e. ‘Spray Cécile Brunner’) to the Cécile Brunner clan. Recently, Malcolm’s group acquired a plant of what may be the true, original ‘Bloomfield Abundance’ from Fred Boutin, who found it in California. They hope to

compare its genetics with close relatives of the original, to see if we may at last have the real thing.

Anita Clevenger, the passionate curator of the Sacramento Cemetery Heritage Rose Garden in California, spoke about the conservation and education going on there. Such a charismatic leader to so many volunteers in this beautiful cemetery of roses!

Stephen Scanniello showed us the amazing results which can be achieved by networking with city officials and children to plant roses throughout Harlem, in New York City. Inspirational!

Viru Viraraghavan, with his wonderful charm and wit, gave a talk titled "Stumbling behind the Master," which gave insights into his aspirations as a breeder and some of the paths less travelled in trying to achieve them.

Australian Billy West, who is one of the *Tea Roses for Warm Gardens* authors, spoke on the need to conserve heritage roses throughout the world, focusing on some of the dedicated work being undertaken in Australia.

A silent auction created much interest with many books on offer; and for the local folk, there were a few roses and shrubs on auction too.

This great first day ended with a dinner to honour David Stone.

The second day, 24th June, was the much anticipated visit to Mottisfont, where four guided walks were organised, each with different themes.

David Stone led one on Managing Mottisfont, where he showed us how the different gardens were created and talked about their daily and seasonal requirements. We were shown how different roses would be pruned and why. Did you know that the plants in Mottisfont are not watered after their initial planting, where a hole is dug and filled with water?

As the water drains away the wet soil is placed around the new plant. This is the only watering the roses receive unless they are really stressed. Mottisfont is home to many very rare roses which are not commercially available in the UK or elsewhere.



Roses at Mottisfont Abbey

Jonny Bass led another group, focusing on the many climbers and Ramblers on the walls and frames and in the trees, while Joan Taylor (more later on this great lady) showcased the perennials that play such an important role as companion plants in the garden. Howard Brisland and Gary Underwood showed us around the grounds of Mottisfont, pointing out the huge old London Plane tree, the font, the river, the winter garden and the house and surrounds. Morning and afternoon tea (including the famous Mottisfont cream tea) and lunch were held in the marquee, or out on the grass under the shade of the trees where most people congregated.

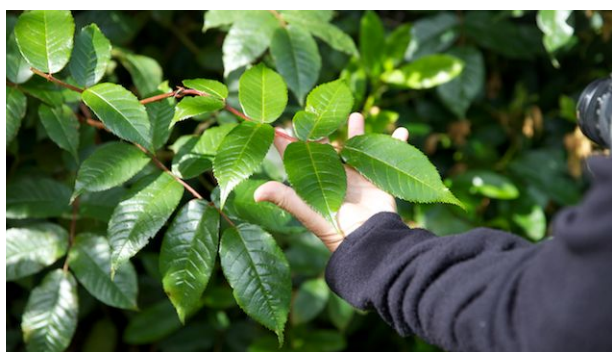
We were initially dismayed to hear that a National Trust plan to redesign the South Garden (The Old Frameyard) would necessitate the removal of the roses growing there, with its beautiful and extensive collection of Hybrid Musk roses and some very rare Tea roses. We are happy to have heard, since the meeting,

that the plan has apparently been altered, and the roses may be safe after all.

The next day was our day of touring. Of course those of us in the back of the bus enjoyed Rose Alphabet, a highly entertaining occupation with some very perplexed reactions to different letters, hilarious charades courtesy of Stephen Scanniello, and our very own encyclopedia on legs, Malcolm Manners.

We visited two extensive gardens — Hinton Ampner in Hampshire and Loseley Park in Surrey. While both were beautiful, each had its own special feel.

At Hinton Ampner, John Wood met us on the lawns in the driveway, and David Stone had fun pretending he had seen a weed growing in the lawn. We were then shown to the terraced front garden of this grand home where the vista was spectacular — taking in woods and cleared grazing land — and then left to explore, with participants heading off in different directions. There was so much to see — a very special garden with many different styles from formal to wild, open to secluded, that somehow merged seamlessly and made such a satisfying whole. Was that a huge example of the rose 'La Mortola' in the hidden gully?



Gigantic leaves of *R. sinowilsonii*

The *pièce de résistance* was the huge mound of *Rosa sino-wilsonii* [or *R. longicuspis* var. *sinowilsonii*] which covered

trees and must have been at least 25 meters tall and wide. This rose had very large glossy leaves and huge panicles of single, white cupped flowers with golden stamens. Much fun was had while Stephen and Malcolm set up their cameras and timers to get a group shot under the rose.



The group photo, *after* the camera folderol

This garden had a spectacular walled garden and very old fruit trees which had been espaliered. 'The Garland', a spectacular rambler which is not available in Australia, was encountered several times during the conference and after.

The gardens and grounds of Hinton Ampner were serene and lovely. It was very special to visit and have time to explore these gardens, after hearing John Wood's wonderful presentation, and it would be easy to lose yourself here for at least a day.

Loseley Park had a completely different feel. Grand but austere and a little foreboding, which may have been due to the grey and sombre aspect of the building. As we arrived a promotion for 4-wheel-drive cars and utes (pick up trucks) was underway near the house. We met in the café where we had lunch before heading off over the huge expanse of lawn, ruled by the tallest old pine, toward the walled garden. The first section of the walled garden was covered in a huge and oh-so-

ancient wisteria which had wound its tendrils along the wall. It must be a spectacular sight when in flower. The highlights of this garden were the beautifully designed white garden, the old mulberry tree, and the river ("the moat") which adjoined the garden and was planted on either side with huge plantings of mainly *Gunnera* and other water loving plants. Such a restful place down near the water.

Mercy Morris of the National Plant Collection programme spoke of their aims, strategies and the newly installed Plant Guardians Scheme. We all face pressures regarding threats to plant diversity, and this would certainly be a scheme that could be emulated in other countries.

As I said earlier, mention must be made of Joan Taylor, whose energy, time, enthusiasm, and vision helped to create a wonderful conference. (And I believe we also have Joan to thank for the perfect weather.) Stephen Scanniello and others also worked tirelessly in the USA to ensure that the conference was a success. We were treated to presentations by experienced masters, but we also saw the vision, talent, and enthusiasm of a younger generation. This was a conference with an eye on the past, the present, and the future, honouring the legacy of Graham Stuart Thomas, paying tribute to the work and genius of David Stone, and being inspired by the talent of a younger generation ready and able to take their places in great gardens and the rose world.



Joan Taylor leads a tour at Mottisfont

A conference based around Mottisfont – Mecca of the Heritage Rose world – was always going to be very important. That it was held at midsummer, at the peak of that garden's glory, and at the time of David Stone's passing the Head Gardener baton to Jonny Bass, made it such a significant moment in time, and it was a privilege to be there and to be a part of it. There was so much warm fellowship and goodwill. It was an inspiring conference, but above all, a joyous one.



Pat Toolan and Billy West

Editor's Note: These photos and many others of the Mottisfont conference may be seen at

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/mmmavocado/sets/72157645039943740/>

Creation of the Anne Belovich Rambler Garden

Claude Graves

My wife Pamela and I met Anne Belovich and her since-deceased husband Max at the 2005 Heritage Rose Foundation Conference in El Cerrito, California. We were very impressed with this gracious lady and her extensive knowledge of rambling roses. We were all the more amazed to learn that she once taught herself celestial navigation and then sailed a small boat with two friends from New Zealand to Hawaii, and that she and Max had built their 5000 sq. ft. home in western Washington State, literally with their own hands, after she had read a few books on construction.



Anne's Lecture

Seven years later, in February of 2012, the name Anne Belovich came up again. Pamela and I were participating in a pruning work day at the Heritage Rose Foundation's Heritage Garden located in the Gardens of the American Rose Society, at the American Rose Center in Shreveport, Louisiana. Stephen Scanniello, President of HRF, and several other HRF members were discussing Anne and her marvelous collection of Rambling Roses and her desire to preserve her collection by replicating it in another location.

Anne has devoted the last 12 years of her life and much of her resources to search out and assemble one of the world's greatest collections of these once-blooming giant rambling roses. Many of Anne's roses are extremely rare, and the preservation of her collection has become a major concern. She very much wants to make sure her valuable collection will continue to be available for all to enjoy in the future.

During the conversation Stephen suggested to me that he felt that the Chambersville Heritage Rose Garden would be a perfect place to duplicate Anne's Rambler collection. The Chambersville Heritage Rose Garden is located at the Chambersville Tree Farms in McKinney Texas, 30 miles north of Dallas. Dean and Carol Oswald, owners of Chambersville Tree Farms, in 2005 had provided the use of 5 acres of their 266-acre tree farm for a heritage rose garden, to serve as a study garden for the Heritage Rose Foundation. The Chambersville Heritage Rose Garden, where I serve as rose consultant and garden curator, boasts a large collection of Tea, China, Noisette and Hybrid Musk roses, as well as a collection of the roses found by the Texas Rose Rustlers. Stephen had consulted frequently with us in the creation of the garden, and the Heritage Rose Foundation has held numerous functions at Chambersville.



Pamela Graves, Dean Oswald, Anne Belovich, Stephen Scanniello, Carol Oswald, and Claude Graves.

Dean and Carol Oswald are committed to developing truly world-class gardens at Chambersville. However, when I presented the idea of possibly duplicating Anne Belovich's collection of some 300-plus giant roses at Chambersville, they were initially overwhelmed. After all, 300 Ramblers would require a lot of land, irrigation (we are in Texas with very undependable rain fall), and large structures to grow them on. However, at the same time, they were intrigued with the challenge and opportunity to create a unique garden of worldly significance.

With Dean and Carol warming to the idea of creating something special, I emailed Anne to determine her interest in the possibility of replicating her collection at Chambersville, and I was thrilled with Anne's enthusiastic response to the possibility. She disclosed that she had already been thinking about contacting us to see if we would consider providing a home for at least some of the collection. We shortly thereafter invited Anne to come to Texas to speak at RoseDango (Chambersville's annual rose festival) in October of 2012, expressly to announce the creation of new Anne Belovich Rambler Garden to be built as an adjunct to the Chambersville Heritage Rose Garden.

Stephen Scanniello attended RoseDango that fall for the announcement of Anne's garden. After the conference, Dean retained Stephen to come back to Chambersville in December to discuss design possibilities for the implementation of the new garden. Upon his return to New Jersey after the December planning meeting Stephen submitted sketches and comments of a proposed design for the Anne Belovich Rambler Garden.



Clearing the beds

An important consideration in the design was that it be suitable as a wedding venue to supplement Chambersville's existing wedding business. Debra Riley and Sarah Varner, who are in charge of the weddings and events at Chambersville met with Dean and me to adapt Stephen's design to satisfy their specific requirements for maximizing the venue for a wedding site. I then took Stephen's design, combined with Debra and Sarah's requirements and adapted it all to fit the topography of the site, to produced working drawings for construction of the garden. The final plan evolved into actually two individual sub-gardens, the first, the Towers Garden, incorporates a central core of re-blooming climbing and shrub roses, to provide for an extended wedding season, surrounded by about 30 of Anne's American-hybridized Ramblers. The second garden, the Rambler Grove, is comprised entirely of Ramblers on towers, 48 of which create a paseo 330 feet long by 24 feet wide, connecting the Tower Garden to the Southwest end of the Rambler Grove garden. The Rambler Grove Garden contains a total of an additional 100 of Anne's rambling roses, all on individual structures.



Climbing Towers in the Garden

A critical factor was the design of the structures for the climbing roses, especially the giant Ramblers that would require great strength to withstand the high winds we can experience in Texas. Initial designs were wooden structures, however they were necessarily massive to provide the strength needed. Stephen and I felt the large wooden structures would dominate visually and distract from the true object of attention, the roses. Dean subsequently came up with a design for the towers made from five-eighths inch diameter rebar that would provide the strength needed and become almost invisible when covered with a vigorous climbing rose. The towers are 12 feet tall and anchored in 30" deep concrete piers in such a way that the towers are actually removable in case one becomes damaged. Individual towers have either 3 or 4 legs depending on the application.

Construction of the Anne Belovich Garden began in June of 2014, with the first ripping of the soil to begin the process of building the improved soil planting beds. Boring of the holes and pouring the concrete for the tower foundation piers began in October, and the actual tower installation began in November. The first Ramblers were transplanted into the garden in early December, 2013.

Previously, in the summer of 2012, Anne had started sending cuttings of some

of her roses to Malcolm Manners (who had graciously agreed to root the cuttings for the garden) at Florida Southern College. In the fall of 2012, Malcolm sent one each of the first group of about 50 varieties of cuttings rooted in 4-inch band pots to me in Dallas. I overwintered the roses in our garden in one gallon pots and subsequently moved them to Chambersville in the spring of 2013, where they were repotted into 3-gallon containers and grown out on a special clothesline-like facility we created to allow the rose to be tied up in true climber form. The same process was repeated with additional cuttings received in the fall of 2013. Additionally, Gregg Lowery at Vintage Gardens also provided 30 of Anne's roses, which he had previously rooted. To date, we have received about 150 of Anne's Ramblers.

The new Anne Belovich Rambler Garden was dedicated at RoseDango on May 3, 2014. The highlights of the day were a program presented by the guest of honor, Anne Belovich, in which she told the amazing story of her life, leading to her infatuation with rambling roses. Stephen Scanniello then conducted a ribbon cutting ceremony to formally open the new Anne Belovich Rambler Garden. The festivities were capped off with Anne planting her newly created namesake rose, "Anne Belovich" (cv. 'Rupannbel'), a new Rambler hybridized by Kim Rupert.



"Anne Belovich." Photo by Kim Rupert.



Anne Belovich plants "her" rose with the help of Dean Oswald, Claude Graves, and Stephen Scanniello

We would like to thank the many individuals who have provided significant contributions to the building of the Anne Belovich Rambler Garden, beginning with Stephen Scanniello for the garden design and consultations through the construction phase, and Malcolm Manners for rooting the roses. We also owe a debt of gratitude to Gregg Martin, manager of rose gardens and retail rose inventory at Chambersville. Gregg was intimately involved in the planning decisions and construction of the garden as well as day-to-day supervision of the construction of the garden. A great deal of appreciation is also owed to Rubin Fraire, Mr. "T" and the entire Chambersville Tree Farms crew for the building of the beds, fabrication, welding and installation of the 150 towers, and installation of the drip irrigation system.

The Anne Belovich Rambler Garden is a truly unique garden, and we feel it is a fitting home for Anne's collection. Plans are underway to incorporate the rest of the roses from Anne's collection into the gardens over the next three years. Additional cuttings have been already been sent to Malcolm for the next phase.

Eventually the entire Anne Belovich collection of over 300 Ramblers will be duplicated at Chambersville.

We owe the greatest amount of thanks and appreciation to Anne Belovich for allowing Chambersville Tree Farms to be the permanent home of her marvelous collection. Our goal is to make her roses available to all to see and enjoy far into the future in a beautiful rural Texas setting.

Reclaiming 'Devoniensis' Sandy Frary

Most people are not aware of Gregg Lowery's role in perpetuating both the bush and climbing form of the Tea, 'Devoniensis.' According to Gregg, the bush form has only been found in one location in the United States — the old Rural Cemetery in Santa Rosa, California. Gregg, George Matson, and Phillip Robinson together discovered and identified the bush 'Devoniensis' in the Rural Cemetery, which stood in a plot at the top of the hill and was more than 8 feet tall — the largest they had ever seen. Unfortunately, subsequent to a community effort to involve owners of grave plots in the maintenance of their plots, the rose was cut down to about 12 inches and did not survive the hard pruning.

Fortunately, cuttings were taken for propagation before the rose died, and plants which were the progeny of the Old Rural Cemetery plant, were sent to France in the late 1990's. Gregg points out, however, that 'Devoniensis' had also been unearthed in one English garden. But plants from that rose were not in commerce until *after* the Rural Cemetery plant was distributed in France. So while Santa Rosa Rural Cemetery has not been the sole source of re-distributing the bush form of Devoniensis in Europe, it was the first source.



Warm-weather 'Devoniensis'

As for the climbing form of *Devoniensis*, Gregg says it has been found in only a few locations in the United States; one in Charleston, South Carolina [see editor's note below], and two in Northern California. Gregg discovered both plants growing in Northern California in the late '70s. One was in San Anselmo, and it provided the first cuttings that were grown into plants and sold to gardeners around the US.

Gregg found the other Northern California climbing form of 'Devoniensis' on Burnside Road in Sebastopol, California, and that rose has also borne cuttings that have been distributed around the world. Gregg sent the first plant to Mme. Odile Masquelier in France. He says that since the climbing form had completely disappeared from European gardens, she was keen on getting it back and into commerce. It is now much admired in French and English gardens.

So among Gregg's contributions toward the preservation of old roses, you can add his part in reclaiming the precious Tea, 'Devoniensis.' And thanks to the donation of several bush forms of 'Devoniensis' from Gregg, it is now once

again growing in Santa Rosa Rural Cemetery from whence it was found.

Editor's addendum:

The Charleston find mentioned above was Ruth Knopf's "Tradd Street Yellow," a rose I've grown for nearly 30 years. It was again Gregg Lowery who pointed out to me, many years ago, that if one takes cuttings from the lateral branches of this climbing form, approximately 40% of them will grow to be the shrub form. And so, many (most?) of the 'Cl. *Devoniensis*' and shrub form 'Devoniensis' now in commerce in the USA originated on Tradd Street, in Charleston. 'Devoniensis' tends to be pale pink, fading to white, most of the time. But in chilly weather (nights in the low 40s F or colder), the flowers can be quite yellow, hence, Ruth's name for it — she discovered it on a cold day.



Cool-weather 'Devoniensis'

A Labor of Love: Sharing the Roses of Joyce Demits' Garden Sondra Bierre



Joyce Demits in her garden

[Editor's note: Joyce was a charter member of the HRF, and she has always been a staunch supporter, as well as of the Heritage Roses Group and anyone promoting old roses.]

On November 2, 2013, a group of a dozen enthusiastic rose lovers from the various Northern California Heritage Rose Groups arrived in the Mendocino/Ft. Bragg area to the home of Joyce Demits, for part two of sharing Joyce's roses. Earlier this spring the group mapped and identified some of her garden roses, but not nearly enough of them. This fall trip was to take cuttings and dig starts, while enjoying the beauty of her garden. There were no restrictions, just one generous person sharing her love of roses with others. Years ago, Joyce and her sister Virginia Hopper combed the Northern coastal areas looking for and rescuing roses that had long been forgotten, yet surviving on their own. Joyce's garden, just shy of two acres, contains many roses from that rustling period along with her nursery roses and other structural plants,

making it a glorious garden to spend time in.

The day started with Alice Flores, the coordinator and friend to Joyce, demonstrating rose propagation, as some of us, like Pamela Temple and Darrell Schramm looked on. Although she was singing to the choir, she managed to still give us a few new propagation techniques to try. The first one was to use plastic water plant containers with its open netting inside a terra cotta pot or other plastic pot to start your hardwood cuttings in. To check for roots, you just simply lift the inner pot from the outer one. This tip was well received, but it was the second one from her friend Kim Rupert that made the group giddy. This was his burrito wrap method. Using a good quality of newsprint that will hold up to being wet and then wrung out, tightly wrap a bundle of hardwood cuttings in the center as you would wrap a burrito! This wrap then goes into plastic bags, zip lock bags, whatever you have but make sure that the package is well sealed from air. Place in a cool dark place for two weeks, then peek at it. You should see callusing. You could use a hormone on the canes before wrapping if you would like. Several of the participants actually tried this method for their cuttings. This is a great method to use if traveling as it does not take up much room. Alice also brought some of her cuttings for us to share. They were 'Gentle Annie' and two "found" roses, "Menocino Honey" and "Rustlers Gold." Then we were allowed to go into Joyce's garden to rustle on our own. The usual foggy area gave us yet another sunny day to enjoy the beauty that was all around us. Some of Joyce's rarer roses included: "Glen Blair," a white rose from the mining period (probably 'Mme. Alfred Carrière'), a raspberry Bourbon believed to have come from the Weller property in

town, and 'Mendocino Gothic', a white cluster rose with a lovely scent that seeded itself from Joyce's 'Secret Garden Musk' rose.



'Mendocino Gothic'

Joyce enjoyed the day, and her stamina was good. She helped in the identifying and location of roses, and as we were winding our own rustling down, she shared some of her memories of the property and her nursery years with us. We left there heading back to the Bay area with our car packed so full of rose cuttings that our driver, Kristina Osborn, our Bay area chapter coordinator, was barely able to see out of her back window. We are tracking the propagating success of our rose cuttings via email. At present the burrito wrap people are showing signs of callusing, but we are all happy in the fact that our canes are still green. Plans are being set for one last spring visit to make sure that we got the roses that we wanted but more importantly to see all of Joyce's roses and once bloomers again in their spring flush.

Thank you as always to Anita Clevenger, Betty Vickers, and Stephen Scanniello for their help in proofreading and improving this newsletter. Malcolm Manners, Editor

Upcoming Events

**Heritage Rose Foundation
November 2014 Annual Meeting
and Conference
(already described above)**

An invitation from the Heritage Roses Group:

**OPEN GARDEN!
ROSE SALE CATALOG!**

**The world-famous San Jose Heritage
Rose Garden
will hold an
Open Garden and Rose Sale
on
Sept. 27.**

A catalog of roses offered is accessible now
at:

<http://www.theheritagerosesgroup.org/>

And from Anita Clevenger:

"Fall Color in the Rose Garden" in the Sacramento Historic Rose Garden, in the Old City Cemetery, Sacramento California. November 22, 10:00 AM. Focusing on late bloom, hips, and fall foliage.

Please Join us!

If you are not already a part of the Heritage Rose Foundation, please consider helping us preserve old roses by becoming a member at
<http://www.heritagefoundation.org/>

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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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