



CEMETERY ROSE

*Heritage Rose Garden
Sacramento Old City Cemetery*

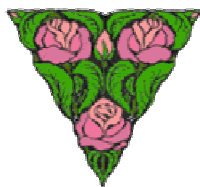
2002 Open Garden Will Be Special

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Inside this issue:

Open Garden	1
Rosarian Visit	1
Editorial—Spring	2
Perennial Sale	2
Feed Your Roses	3
Celebrate Roses	3



**Open Garden
Saturday
April 20, 2002
10 a.m.—4 p.m.**

Be sure to reserve Saturday, April 20 for the Historic Rose Garden Open Event. This year, with a mild winter, warm February and warm days in March, the roses promise to be something special.

As you arrive in the Historic Rose Garden in the Old City Cemetery, the fragrance of these special old garden roses wafts over the area and draws you right into the garden.

Hardworking volunteers have spent hours and hours pruning, feeding, training, and generally sprucing up the more than 400 roses in the Old City Cemetery's Historic Rose Garden getting ready for the April 20 event.

Through the generous donation of Sherri and Candace at B & B Nursery in Wil- lows, and hardworking attention of vol- unteers, there will be many, many roses

for the plant sale. (You may recall that last year we sold out by 2 p.m.!) This year's roses include all the popular ones plus some "new" old roses not offered at prior sales.



The Open Garden begins at 10:00, with tours conducted by Barbara Oliva starting around eleven. Coffee and sweet refreshments will be offered in the morning and a number of rose-related items will be offered for sale, too. Old City Cemetery Historic Tours begin at 11:00 a.m.

It really is time to stop and smell the roses!

Reception For Australian Rosarian Announced

Australian Rosarian Patricia Toolan will visit a number of rose gardens in the U.S. and will be in California in May. A reception will be held at 3:00 p.m. on May 16 at the Sacramento Archives and Museum Collections Center (SAMCC).

Ms. Toolan will speak at the Huntington Symposium on Old Roses. Her topic: *Found Old Roses in Australian Cemeteries and Gardens.*

SAMCC is located at 551 Sequoia Pacific Blvd., three blocks east of Interstate 5 at Richards Blvd.

Spring Again!



It's that busy time of year. (Wait, for gardeners, all seasons are busy!) There's much to do and much to enjoy in the garden right now. Early in March I watch to see how much has greened out—and hope to learn early which roses will be the real standouts this year. I moved *Cornelia* from a too-shady spot—did it help? Will the new trellis encourage climbing *New Dawn* as well as the found climber from Susan's grandmother? Did moving *Petit Pink* from a pot to a plot bring it new vigor?

It's also time to weed and feed and take a close look...any aphids? My personal favorite "cure" is to sprinkle garlic powder on aphid-populated new shoots after wetting them down early in the morning. The garden always smells like an Italian restaurant for a few days, but there's no harm to anything except the aphids which HATE the stuff!

A rose must
remain with the
sun and the rain
or its lovely
promise won't
come true.

Ray Evans
"To Each His Own."



Perennial Plant Club Announces 3rd Annual Sale

The 3rd Annual Sale of Unusual Plants and Garden Treasures will be held on April 27, 2002 from 9-4 in Curtis Hall of the Sierra Center. The Center is located at 2791 24th St., four blocks south of Broadway Way.

On sale: trees, shrubs, perennials, herbs, alpines, angel & pansy face ge-

raniums, ornamental grasses, Mediterranean and California natives, cranesbill and scented geraniums, Pacific Coast iris, aquatic plants and miniature water gardens. Books and garden-related items will also be offered.

There is, of course, some debate about fertilizing roses. (See article on p. 3) I favor a complete fertilizer and work it into the soil prior to re-mulching the plants.

In April, the first buds begin to open and by the end of the month the spring flush has arrived. Wow! All that hard work has really paid off. Now it's time to put up a lawn chair and actually sit a moment in the garden. I tend to focus on what needs to be done to specific plants and can lose sight of the big picture. Taking time to look, I can see how the whole garden is recovering from the winter die-back and pruning (and some neglect) and let the balmy air flow. All too soon, it will be too warm to sit and I'll be too busy cutting flowers, dead-heading blooms and watering.

Judy Eitzen

The sale benefits the Perennial Plant Club Scholarship Fund.

Feeding and Care of Your Roses—Springtime Tasks

Old Garden Roses are grown on their own root stock. Own root roses are more winter hardy, live longer, perform better, do not produce suckers of a different type rose and are less likely to suffer from rose virus. These roses are *much* easier to care for than hybrid teas and are more attractive for just about every purpose (except perhaps winning rose shows). Many are roses that can be planted as shrubs or in a perennial garden rather than in a separate rose garden. If you wish, they are care-free, except for clipping off dead tips at the end of the winter.

This is all well and good, but these plants do benefit from a little help. Before the first spring flush of blooms and again in fall, most gardeners promote growth and blossoms by adding fertilizer. But what? And exactly when? And how?

A “complete” fertilizer contains nitrogen, phosphorous and potassium, three elements needed by all plants. Though rosarians may disagree on the exact product (Dr. Q’s Rose Food vs Roses Alive vs a home-made conco-

tion, for example), most suggest a complete fertilizer to produce quality roses. A nitrogen, phosphorous potassium mix of 5-10-5, 4-8-4 or similar balance works well. Trace elements such as iron, magnesium, manganese, zinc and sulfur are also essential and many general purpose rose fertilizers contain these in small amounts.

If you prefer to use organic fertilizers like blood-meal or fish emulsion, be sure to add trace element as supplements (such as *Ironite*) to provide complete nutrition.

Many now use timed or slow-release fertilizers such as *Osmocote* to provide nutrition throughout the growing season. Though more costly, it’s an easier way to feed your plants. There’s no need to remember when to feed again, it’s done!

Whatever your choice, work the fertilizer into the soil, water it in and mulch each plant. This will provide additional organic supplements to the soil as well as keeping the shrub moist (and cool come summer.)

A Celebration of Old Roses

This event is sponsored by the Heritage Roses Group and is not to be missed by lovers of old roses.

A *Celebration of Old Roses* will be held on Sunday, May 19 from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the El Cerrito Community Center in El Cerrito.

It’s a sale of roses, old and miniature,

rare perennials, species geraniums, books on gardening and rose-related calendars, fabric, prints, and rose potpourri, for sale.

Take Highway 80 or 580 to El Cerrito and take the Central Avenue exit east to Ashbury, turn left to Moeser. The El Cerrito Community Center is at the corner of Moeser and Ashbury.



*A complete
fertilizer contains
nitrogen,
phosphorous and
potassium...*





HERITAGE ROSE
GARDEN

CEMETERY
ROSE

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!
[www.home.inreach.com/
verlaine/roses](http://www.home.inreach.com/verlaine/roses)

In Search of Lost Roses

A new edition of *In search of lost roses* by Thomas Christopher will be published in May, 2002 by the University of Chicago Press in trade paperback edition. It will retail for \$16.00. This out of print classic was originally published in 1989 and reprinted in 1993. This delightful and fascinating book chronicles Christopher's search for "old roses"—the original breed which all but vanished after 1867, when the "modern" rose first appeared. About the first edition, the *New York Times* said, "What sticks in the mind is the stories he tells and the people he's met, researched or gone to look for—the mad, passionate, wildly uncompromising people, fixed on a flower." (Amazon.com is taking early reservations for this one!)

Don't forget!

Historic Rose Garden
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Rose Garden Tours
Plant Sale

