



# CEMETERY ROSE

## *Heritage Rose Garden Sacramento Old City Cemetery*



Volume 1, Issue 1

August, 2001

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### *Cemetery Rose Garden*

### *Committee Meeting*

6:00 p.m. September 12 Pot-luck picnic in the Rose Garden at the Cemetery. Please plan to attend.

Details page 3  
Call Barbara Oliva  
443-2146 or Judy  
Eitzen 685-6634

## Fall & Winter Schedule Set at July Meeting

Barbara Oliva hosted a pot-luck meeting on Friday, July 27. Seven Rose Garden regulars attended and discussed future plans for the Heritage Rose Garden.

### **Fall Propagation**

The group agreed to propagate roses on two Saturdays, October 27 and November 17. All who are interested and willing to propagate and/or baby the resulting new plants over the winter are welcome to attend. We'll meet at 10:00 in the Rose Garden. Questions? Call Barbara Oliva 443-2146.

### **Pruning Classes for the Public**

Barbara Oliva will conduct pruning classes for interested members of the public and any Heritage Rose Garden volunteers who wish to attend.

## Complementary Gardens

Something that Monet, Renoir and Van Gogh had in common despite the wide difference in their painting styles is that they all used gardens, and the flowers they contained, as inspiration for their work. Monet began his spectacular gardens by planting a few flowers so he would have something to paint in bad weather. Renoir used softly colored blush and pink roses to

Classes will be held on December 8 and January 12 at 10:00. Look for the marquee; class will be held rain or shine.

### **Rose Garden Pruning**

Those who want to help with this important chore are invited to join in any Saturday in December, January or February. All are welcome to participate on your own, but if you haven't done so in the past, or want to work with a buddy, please call Barbara Oliva.

### **State Funding Possibility**

A committee prepared an initial request for a grant of state funds to build permanent structures to support roses in the garden. A formal application for the California Parks and Rec-

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practice painting the flesh tones for which he became known. Van Gogh's approach to painting flowers was to place complementary colors together—the brighter, the better.

In a new book, **Van Gogh's Gardens**, author Derek Fell describes how Van Gogh began to place flowers in paint-

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## New Editor, New Look



*Cemetery Rose* has a new editor, Judy Eitzen, and a new look. I look forward to continuing the more than able job begun by Barbara Oliva and plan to rely on her expertise in the months to come.

With luck, the newsletter will be published quarterly and will include happenings in the Cemetery, the Cemetery Rose Garden, our plans for the future and information about old garden roses and their cultivation and heritage. Sounds pretty ambitious, right?

Well, I'm asking for help and assistance from all. If you feel the urge to write, please do so and I'll print it if it's pertinent and printable. (Just kidding...)

If you know of something going on in the old-rose world, please let me know and I'll print it.

For those I haven't met, I'm a garden-lover who spends most of her time being a librarian. So naturally, I love books about gardens, roses and landscaping and will bring you news of special ones from time to time.

I hope you will find this newsletter informative and useful. If not, I hope you'll let me know.

Contributions, complaints, greetings: [verlaine@inreach.com](mailto:verlaine@inreach.com) or call me at 685-6634.

*Judy Eitzen*

## Complementary Gardens

*(Continued from page 1)*

ings until he eventually focused on them in many of his works. Van Gogh's use of complementary colors became renown; and gardeners look for them today to add brightness and punch to gardens. One of the most common plants used to gain this effect is a red zonal geranium, which forms a complement with its own leaves.

Working with color in a garden is similar to working with paint on canvas—your garden, your canvas. If the intensities of the colors balance, then complementary colors work very well. Rose gardening guides often list which plants complement roses based on when they bloom or

their overall shape, and that's useful. One can also try, however, to place plants with roses that will complement their color as well. Fortune's Double Yellow, for example, might be placed in a plot edged with late-blooming blue-purple iris for a dramatic display. Or try a bright red rose (take your pick!) interspersed with bright yellow lilies or train creamy white Sombreuil over a trellis with bright blue delphiniums growing beneath for a primary color effect.

Interested in the book? **Van Gogh's Gardens** by Derek Fell, Simon & Schuster, 2001, \$35.00.

*(You can find it at the public library, too...ed.)*

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“Working with color in a garden is similar to working with paint on canvas—your garden, your canvas.”

## Rose Committee Meeting

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reation funding will be filed in the fall.

If the request is successful, funds would be granted in Fiscal Year 2003 (beginning July 1, 2002). The group has been working with Jim Henley of the Sacramento Archives and Museums Collections Center (the City Department which has jurisdiction over the Old City Cemetery.)

State Senator Deborah Ortiz informed the group about the potential for state funding. Though the group is aware that nothing is really “permanent” this seems a great opportunity to establish permanent rose structures.

## Found Roses

Finding roses and taking cuttings to root later has become a popular past-time among old rose lovers (or more precisely, lovers of old roses...) It's so popular in Texas that they proudly call it “rose rustling” which makes it all the more agreeable. Some do it to preserve important finds while others simply like the satisfaction of babying new plants and have the patience to see the results.

Found roses are important for a garden like the Cemetery's Heritage Rose Garden. We can include plants which have been in California (and the West) the earliest settlers brought plants from the East and Europe.

Softwood cuttings are easiest to root and can be taken anytime during the growing season. Cuttings should be from mature, but not woody, growth.

## Picnic Meeting

The next meeting of those interested in planning for the Rose Garden will be held on September 12 at the Rose Garden. We'll get together at 6:00 p.m. You can come for the planning or come for the picnic or come for both!

We'll have an outdoor potluck at the Cemetery where we can look over the garden and set propagation and pruning priorities on the spot. What a concept!

All are invited to the meeting and the pot-luck. Please call Barbara Oliva or Judy Eitzen (685-6634) to reserve your spot.



In the hot Valley and Foothill areas, some wait until the worst of the summer heat is past. These new plants may be smaller but they'll soon catch up.

Take and plant cuttings the same day if possible. Cut 6" sections of cane, strip leaves from bottom 2/3 and remove hips or flowers. Cuttings should be started in 4" pots filled with good potting soil. Dusting the stem bottoms with rooting hormone promotes quicker rooting which improves chances for success.

Gently firm cuttings in the soil and water well. It's important that the cutting be in contact with the soil, not just in a hole in the small pot.

Cuttings root best in bright, indirect light. This is especially true in the Valley—direct summer sun is too much for

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*In Texas...  
they proudly call  
it rose rustling...*





HERITAGE ROSE  
GARDEN



CEMETERY  
ROSE

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## Found Roses, continued

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fragile cuttings, though mature plants can thrive in it. Here in the Valley, it's crucial to protect cuttings from drying out. So hide them under the dappled shade of mature roses or rig a small panel of cheesecloth or other translucent fabric. Stay away from anything that will add heat. Keep the potting soil moist, but don't let it get soggy.

Now comes the patience part. Don't give up when you see the leaves fall off. Keep watering and watching and you will be rewarded with new growth. It can take eight to ten weeks for that growth to produce a second set of leaves. When this occurs, you know the cutting has taken firm root. During the rooting process, you can add a little soluble fertilizer to the water from time to time.

Once the new plant has rooted, treat it as you would any new shrub—it's ready for transplant. Easy as that!

*Quick Garden Tip:*  
**Conquer weeds with vegetable oil**

Gardeners use paper mulches because they are effective, biodegradable and cheaper than plastic. However, paper biodegrades very quickly. An Illinois researcher has shown that paper coated with linseed oil will hold up as long as 13 weeks.

Apply boiled linseed oil to 3-4 foot wide roles of kraft paper. Let it dry and place in the garden using dirt to hold it in place. Should last as long as the tomatoes do.



Rose Quote

And I will make  
thee beds of roses,  
And a thousand  
fragrant posies.

Marie-Antoinette