



CEMETERY ROSE

*Old City Cemetery Historic Rose Garden
Preserving California's Heritage Roses*



*Volume 4, Issue 3
March, 2005*

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Cemetery Rose Garden

Activities and Dates

Open Garden
April 16, 2005
10 a.m. –3 p.m.

HRF Symposium
May 13-15, 2-005

**Celebration of Old
Roses**
May 16, 2005

2005 Open Garden

This year's Open Garden event on April 16 promises to be better than ever. The garden looks to be spectacular this year; in fact, early roses are already setting buds and the rest are leafing out beautifully.

The Open Garden event is our big fundraiser for the year and this year's plans include:

- Tours of the rose garden led by Barbara Oliva.
- Photographic tour led by Judy Eitzen.
- "My favorites" tour led by Anita Clevenger.
- Sales of antique roses taken from plants in the garden and surrounding areas.

- Sales of rose-related items; aprons, shirts, etc.
- Food and drink and good rose companionship and talk.

A hardy cadre of volunteers headed by Anita Clevenger and Barbara Oliva have spent countless hours working through the fall and winter to get things ready. Volunteers have worked to prune, trim, and deadhead the roses. It's always amazing to see how many roses try to bloom in winter, even when rains turn their blossoms to mush; ours are very hardy roses. Some "volunteer" trees have been removed, further cleaning up the area

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HRF Symposium Dedicated to Lost and Found Roses of California

This year's Heritage Rose Foundation Symposium will be held in conjunction with the "Celebration of Old Roses" in El Cerrito. The event is scheduled for May 13, 14 & 15th with the Celebration on Sunday, May 16th.

HRF has invited an unprecedented lineup of rose rustlers, scholars, experts and dedicated gardeners for

this extraordinary exploration of California's unique rose heritage.

Both the conference and the celebration will be held in the 'graceful confines' of the El Cerrito Community Center. Registrants can get a special rate on local hotels. A unique opportunity to tour public and private gardens in the area precedes and follows the symposium.

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Rose ID Project Needs Volunteers

editorial



In book after book, article after article, one reads something to the effect, "...contrary to popular opinion, roses are not difficult to grow... Who said they were? Who's popular opinion? What expert gave that assessment? How did roses get their bad rap, anyway?

I looked through my (admittedly limited) rose and garden library, and even searched the web. I found that lavender roses can be touchy. Okay, I'll buy that. A large shrubby Rambler can be difficult to control. Okay, again. Another rose might be difficult to propagate or hybridize. So,, do these things make them "difficult to grow?" What we *have* learned, is that found roses can be *difficult to identify*.

As reported in earlier issues, volunteers at the Cemetery's Rose Garden have begun an ID project on the Found Roses growing in Sacramento's Cemetery.

Open Garden, cont.

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and providing additional sunshine for some roses that were stuck in the shade.

Plots have been weeded, paths cleared, and headstones uncovered; in general, a huge amount of work was accomplished this winter.

Additionally, the new Cemetery fence has been completed and the new entrance gates should be completed soon. The new fence has greatly improved the Cemetery's appearance from Broadway and from Riverside Blvd.

Worker bees are still needed to help prepare for and work on the day of the event. Please call Barbara Oliva (443-2146) or email her at Bo-

This is a plea for your assistance.

In October, local volunteers and visiting rosarians began cataloging and photographing characteristics of Found Roses using the Field Report (Dec issue). We will get going again in late March.

There will be several opportunities to participate in this exciting project this spring, so contact Barbara Oliva (443-2146 boliva@macnexus.org) or Judy Eitzen to join the fun.

The bad rose-growing rap? It comes from too many people trying to grow the same roses in a wide variety of climates and conditions with varying success. The wrong rose requires lots of extra attention, hence the "difficult to grow" label. *You must choose wisely...*

Contributions, complaints, greetings: verlaine@citlink.net or call me at 685-6634.

liva@macnexus.org to volunteer.

Polo shirts in bright pink (women's) and medium blue (men's) trimmed with a rose and the legend "Historic Rose Garden" will be available prior to the event. Event volunteers will be notified of cost, sizes, colors, etc., or you can email Judy Eitzen (verlaine@citlink.net) to reserve a shirt.

Tasks still to be done include:

- Preparation work in the Rose Garden; cleanup, new ID tags, etc.
- Preparation of items for the event itself; signage, raffle items, etc.
- Tour guides are needed for the day of the event.
- The sales table and "Welcome Station" need people to assist visitors to the event.

**Uncommon
Rose
2005 Catalog**
now available
online.

Check it out at:

[http://www.
uncommonrose.
biz/r/catalog.
html](http://www.uncommonrose.biz/r/catalog.html)

The catalog is a
two-part pdf file
well over 100
pages.

Once
downloaded to
your PC, you
can view it at
your leisure.

What's in a Word? Entomology or Etymology?

Entomology

Antique Roses are considered, especially in our dry inland valley, relatively easy to cultivate with spectacular results. That doesn't mean, however, that they are entirely pest free. According to the UC IPM website, 'roses are among the most intensively managed plants in many home landscapes.' Of course, they are referring to all roses, moderns included, and with good reason, as many roses are susceptible to a variety of insect and mite pests. One way to manage is through a program of Integrated Pest Management, or IPM for short.

IPM is not just for the commercial nursery or agribusiness. In your garden, it can keep you relatively pest free. The basics of IPM are:

- Select plants that are insect and disease resistant and suited to our climate and the specific conditions in your garden.
- Pay attention and use appropriate cultural practices, mulch, water from below, etc.
- Pick away or water-spray away pests when they first appear and employ beneficials. Use stronger controls only when needed.
- Keep an eye on increasing populations of various pests' natural enemies, as they are both a sign of a problem and the possible solution.
- Keep watching for damage or other signs of infestation and treat quickly to keep populations low and roses undamaged.

What are some of the etymological beasts that frequently bother our precious plants?

Aphid. These small, soft-bodied insects are probably the most common insects in any garden. They seem to appear overnight on buds and new growth. As many are born pregnant, they appear in large colonies. The damage they cause may not become

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Etymology

"What's in a name?" Shakespeare knew about names and used the rose to make his point, ("That which we call a rose...") Most botanical names and descriptors are from Latin, the scientific language of the time when many plants were classified. Many Latin words and names in turn were 'borrowed' from Greece or other, early civilizations.

The word 'rose' first appears in Old English directly from the Latin, 'rosa'. You can find variants all around the Mediterranean where roses were cultivated in ancient times. Ultimately, the source may be Proto-Indio-European, 'wr̥dho' which meant thorn or bramble. Regardless of the origin and spelling changes, this word has been in use for thousands of years, just as roses have been cultivated since the earliest civilizations.

In fact you can carry this to the extreme and be etymologically correct in drinking a *julip* while watching the *Run for the Roses*. Start with the English word *rose* which came from Latin. Latin *rosa* may be an Etruscan form of Greek *Rhodia*, "Rhodian, originating from Rhodes." The Attic Greek word for rose is *rhodon*, and in Sappho's Aeolic dialect of Greek it is *wrodon*. In Avestan, the language of the Persian prophet Zoroaster, "rose" is *varda* and in Armenian *vard*. The Modern Persian word for "rose" is *gul* (which, believe it or not, is descended from a form quite similar to *varda* through a series of regular sound changes); and *gul-b* is "rose-water." *Gulb* is also a drink made of water and honey or syrup. The name of this Persian treat was borrowed into Arabic as *julb* and then, through Spanish and French, became *julep* in English, the ambrosia for sipping on Derby Day.

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What's in a Word? Entomology

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evident until the buds open, revealing deformed flowers and leaves.

Aphids are susceptible to a variety of natural enemies (predators and parasitoids), which in sufficient numbers can provide some control. A hard stream of water removes aphids from plants without harming their natural enemies. Spray the plants at a time when the water will quickly evaporate or you may encourage disease. Various insecticidal soaps are effective; a sprinkle of garlic can keep them away after spraying with water to knock them down.

Hoplia beetle. This pest is commonly found on roses in the Central Valley. As it has just one generation a year, it is a problem only from late March to May when the adult beetles feed on light-colored blossoms. (Why only white, pink, apricot & yellow roses?) It does not damage leaves. Handpick these babies and remove infested blooms. Sprays or soaps are not effective.

Fuller rose beetle. The adult chews flowers and foliage, leaving notched or ragged edges. These 3/8" long weevils are flightless and hide during the day on the underside of leaves; feeding occurs at night. Handpick them when numbers increase, trim branches that touch other plants (they travel on such bridges), and use sticky material on stems to control. Insecticides have little effect.

Spider Mites. These tiny pests cause leaves to be stippled or bleached, often with webbing. They may cause leaves to dry up and fall. They are tiny (·) and are best seen with the use of a hand lens. Dry, dusty conditions promote high numbers of these mites; they also increase when their natural enemies are killed off by broad-spectrum pesticides. (Be careful what you wish for.) The best control is to conserve their natural enemies, provide sufficient irrigation,

and keep down the dust. Periodic overhead irrigation usually takes care of the problem. If further treatment is necessary, spider mites can be controlled with insecticidal soap, horticultural oil, or neem oil.

Rose leafhopper. Leafhoppers cause stippling larger than mite stippling. Cast skins and the absence of webbing on the underside of leaves is a good indication that these pests are present. Plants can tolerate moderate stippling. Use an insecticidal soap if an infestation is severe.

There are many entomological beasts you may see in your garden that are among the "good guys." Here are three of them:

Leafcutter bees. While these animals do some damage (they cut semicircular holes in the margins of leaves and carry leaf material back to use in lining their nests), they are important pollinators and should not be killed. Tolerate this pest, as there are no effective controls.

Leatherwings or soldier beetles. These moderate to large-sized beetles have leatherlike dark wings and orange or red heads and thoraxes. They are very common on roses, and are often mistaken for pests, though they feed on aphids. Even the larvae feed on aphids and not on roses.

Predaceous mites. A number of predatory mites feed on spider mites, frequently keeping them at tolerable levels. If you really want to know, take a hand lens and notice that carnivorous mites do not have spots, are pear shaped and scurry around looking for plant-feeding sedentary mites to snarf.

The elegant world of beautiful antique roses isn't always so elegant. By keeping on top of bothersome pests however, we can make our gardens into showplaces.

or Etymology?

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There are many words in a rosarians' vocabulary that come to us relatively unchanged from their first recorded usage. Even 'hybrid' as in *Hybrid Perpetual* or *Hybrid Tea* was first coined in 1601 from the Latin 'hybrida', as a variant of 'ibrida' meaning 'mongrel' and is loosely connected to the Greek word 'hubris'. Nowadays we use the term primarily when describing deliberate attempts to develop new plants; originally it meant accidental crosses, showing that people learned how to breed plants and animals from natural observations.

Some rose names are descriptive of the place from which the rose was first cultivated. 'Gallica' is from the Latin 'Gaullia' which the Romans may have picked up from a native (Celtic) name for France. 'Bourbon' is derived from *Bourbon l'Archambault*, chief town of a lordship in central France, which probably came from 'Borvo', the name of a local Celtic thermal deity. *Rosa chinensis* is a term used to identify any and all roses originating in China and Southeast Asia.

Some are named for individuals, often the naturalist who discovered the plant or the person who first hybridized it. *Rosa banksia* is named for the genus of Australian evergreen shrubs first identified by Sir Joseph Banks as this rose has similar flowering pattern to these plants.

The most common names are those that describe the plant in some fashion, and though we may not think

of the meanings behind all these terms, it can be helpful to do so. "Flora" was the Roman goddess of flowers and in Latin, "abundans" means 'to overflow'. Florabunda roses are certainly abundantly flowering. Similarly, 'multiflora' is from the Latin 'multiflorous' meaning multiple flowers. Some names describe a characteristic of the plant. 'Eglantine,' for example comes from Middle English *eglestin*, via Old French from the Latin 'aculeus' meaning 'spine'. Musk roses get their English name from French *moscatelle*, from Italian *moscatella*, and originally from Late Latin 'muscus', referring to the characteristic scent of these plants.

There are many other interesting word histories for roses, and we end with the beginning, 'species'. Where *did* we get the term 'species rose'? The word 'species' is carried over directly from Latin (an example of a word living on in other languages, though Latin is considered "dead"). It originally meant "appearance, sight or a seeing". The Romans derived the word from Proto-Indio-European 'spek' which meant 'behold.' The first recorded biological use was in 1608. It's fascinating that this word, which comes to us through history relatively unchanged, describes some wonderful roses that have done the same.



HRF Symposium, Continued

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Speakers include our own Barbara Oliva who will discuss the Historic Rose Garden in the Cemetery. For lovers and students of Old Roses - both experienced and novice - this event is not to be missed.

For details go to the HRF website and download registration information.
<http://www.heritagrosefoundation.org/>.



OLD CITY CEMETERY
HISTORIC ROSE



CEMETERY
ROSE

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WE'RE ON THE WEB
www.cemeteryrose.org



Volunteers

Rose Garden volunteers spend time working on projects that benefits the entire community. They spend time learning about roses with others interested in antique roses, their history and horticulture.

Volunteers are good company! Volunteers are the first to try growing roses from the Rose Garden in home gardens. Join in!

Contact Barbara Oliva (443-2146) to sign up now!

Quick Garden Tip:
Keep it Clean

Any gardener knows that weeding and planting is dirty work. So make your work a little cleaner by spritzing cooking spray on your hoe, shovel and other gardening tools before you go to work. This prevents soil from sticking to them and makes your gardening and cleanup go much easier!

Do make it a practice to clean your tools after use. It helps keep the tool useful longer and makes it easier to use next time. When you find disease or pests as you hoe or weed, clean your tool between beds (or even between plants) to avoid spreading the problem (bug or pathogen) to other plants in your garden.



Rose Quote

"The splendor of the rose and the whiteness of the lily do not rob the little violet of its scent nor the daisy of its simple charm. If every tiny flower wanted to be a rose, spring would lose its loveliness."

Therese of Lisieux