



CEMETERY ROSE

Sacramento's Historic Cemetery
Historic Rose Garden
Preserving California's Heritage Roses



Volume 2, Issue 3
March, 2003

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Open Garden

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Celebrate Spring And Roses On May 3

By Barbara Oliva

Open Garden 2003 of the Historic Rose Garden in Sacramento's Historic City Cemetery will be on May 3rd this year. I know it's late, but Easter, Perennial Plant Club Sale, Sacramento Rose Society and the AIDS Sale compete. (Next year we'll plan to have it earlier.)

The hours will be from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. There will be tours, both of the roses and History Tours of the Cemetery. There will be rose plants for sale, rose related items, some snack foods, and a raffle. Publicity will go out to Yolo and Beyond and The Heritage Rose Group as well as our volunteer group - and there will be chances to

sit down and chat with old and new friends. See you there!

For more information, call Barbara Oliva, 916.443.2146
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Judy Eitzen, 916.685.6634
e-mail, verlaine@inreach.com

This year's Open Garden Event will be really special. A number of roses which had not received much attention recently were pruned this winter thanks to a small cadre of volunteers. In addition to the Cemetery volunteers, we were able to have a crew of Americorp Volunteers who worked more magic on the roses several Saturdays.

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Rose Collectors

By Judy Eitzen

People like to collect things. Perhaps it satisfies some primal need or aesthetic sense. We collect books, memorabilia, paintings, ceramics- almost anything. Gardeners can become collectors, too. Some create small or large rose gardens. There are those who find themselves tucking 'just one more rose' in a corner of the yard, and who can't resist se-

lecting one more from a catalog or nursery or taking a cutting from alongside the road. These are all rose collectors.

Collectors, of course, fit into several categories themselves. First, there are those who love roses, all types, colors, shapes and sizes and simply

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Spring Is In The Air

editorial



Okay, I know Spring doesn't officially arrive until March 21, but this is California, after all. Spring can start any time. I visited San Francisco for the Antiquarian Book Fair in early February and it was a beautiful spring-like day. We get them sometimes in the middle of Winter. In Sacramento we often speak of the best time of the year being spring and fall—one week in each season.

We did the rainy, muddy, prickly pruning thing and now it's nearly time to reap the reward. Sometimes I think watching roses leaf out is as rewarding as the roses themselves. Nah...just kidding. But I do like to watch to see what's happening. Will the rose I tied to that trellis go where I want it to? Will there be blossoms where I intended? Will it bloom at all? Should I 'nip it in the bud'?

The thing I always forget in my haste to get out into the sunshine each Spring is

that my roses will begin to need water. How many days has it been since the last rain, anyway? Time to check the hoses and connections and water and feed and watch the roses set buds and begin to bloom.

It's even time to drag out the outdoor furniture and sit and contemplate what's developing in the garden. All that hard work is about to pay off!

The Cemetery's roses are leafing out apace, too. It should be a fine show by mid April. With the Open Garden scheduled in early May, it should be perfect. Do plan to be there; it's well worth your time. Volunteers are busy lining up tables, plants for the sale, goodies and tour plans. See you there!

Contributions, complaints, greetings:
verlaine@inreach.com or call me at 685-6634.
Judy Eitzen

Nip It In The Bud?

By Judy Eitzen

Sometimes phrases come into common use from practical origins. "Nip it in the bud" is a perfect example. We often use it to refer to any type of activity or project that is stopped almost before it's begun. It came to us, however from a very practical activity of gardeners working with woody plants.

Roses are leafing out in all directions in early spring and may throw out more growth than the plant can support. Following the "nip it" dictum requires no special equipment beyond your fingers as new growth is so supple it can be 'nipped' quite easily.

Look at the bud unions (those lovely red swellings) to see if the plant has put out too many. Remove extras by simply rubbing them off with your fingers. Check to see if the remaining buds will grow where you want them and remove those which do not.

When three sprouts form in close proximity, try rubbing out the middle one in the hope that the remaining two will grow away from each other.

Disbudding is the "nip it" technique most easily used to remove unwanted buds and encourage the remaining ones to grow. Look for the large one (terminal bud) to leave and remove the side buds when you want to encourage

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*...requires no special
equipment beyond
your fingers.*



Open Garden

(Continued from page 1)

Plants offered for sale include those propagated from the roses in the Cemetery. Each fall a small crew of volunteers arrives with rooting hormones and potting mix to take cuttings of the most popular roses. These are planted and tended over the winter to be ready for sale at the Open Garden event each year.

Special tours will be offered in the Garden accentuating California's heritage as shown in the roses which still exist in this garden. You can learn more about caring for these plants and ways of designing old garden roses into your landscape planning.

Best of all is that first whiff you get when entering the Historic Rose Garden in spring....ahhhhhh.

Collecting Roses Today

By Barbara Oliva

For quite a few years, old rose enthusiasts have been checking out the old cemeteries and taking cuttings. All of these cemeteries have been pretty well worked over; there aren't likely to be any undiscovered roses left in them.

Our Historic Rose Garden is populated with roses collected in that way: it's reason for being is to save the genetic heritage that is disappearing from many of the old sites. We have several unique roses that aren't in the trade; or that were

Related Rose Events

April 26-27

Sacramento Rose Society 53rd Annual Rose Show

Contact Show Chair Betty Ann Cassina at 916-487-9444 or Baldo Villegas at 916-988-8938 or 916-262-2051 for more information.

April 27-28

San Jose Heritage Rose Garden Open House

Contact Mel Hulse at Mel@Hulse.Name for more information and directions to the various meeting places.

May 18

Celebration of Old Roses

11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the El Cerrito Community Center, just north of Berkeley. (7007 Moeser Lane, El Cerrito, CA) Largest display and sale of old roses in the country. A "must" event for rose nuts, er... rose enthusiasts! This event is put on by the Heritage Roses Group.

September 27

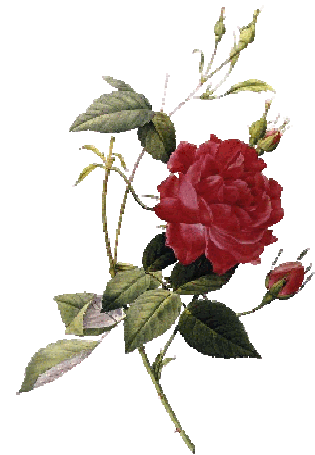
North Coast Rose Symposium

Barbara Oliva will speak on, "Next Step In Collecting California's Heritage Roses." More info soon.

originally planted before virus entered the rose family, therefore possibly a source of virus free plants.

If the cemeteries and old sites have been covered, where do we go from here? Rosarians in the Mokulumne Hill area are working with the older residents and checking old homes before they are sold. Of course they contact the owners or the surviving family. They have the help of a Rosarian who has lived in the area all her life and knows who has a garden that may shelter some old roses. I suspect that is

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Rose Collectors

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want lots of roses in the garden. This **Eclectic** individual sees a rose in the garden of a friend or a catalog or nursery and impulsively adds it to the ‘collection.’ These gardens change as new, interesting plants are found.

A **Theme Collector** selects roses that fit a pre-determined theme; a color, size or shape, origin or family of rose. Themes vary from person to person and can cover more than one specific. For example, one might collect pink climbers or yellow minis or ramblers with clusters of small yellow blooms. These gardens tend to remain more or less the same over longer periods of time as the gardener works the plants together.

Some fall in love with a particular class of rose and collect all of that type that they can find. One of these gardens might include only red hybrid tea tree roses or English roses developed by David

Austin. **Class Collectors** tend to ignore other types or if they do have other roses, place them in the hidden corners of the garden.

Finally, there are **List Collectors**. These avid specialists attempt to find and grow all plants on a specific list. Such a gardener might attempt to duplicate a famous rose garden plant by plant or to include all “50 immortal roses” listed in **The Rose Bible** or “roses from the movies” (from the *Yellow Rose of Texas* to *Chinatown*.) List collectors may become obsessive about their collection—but that’s another article.

Most collectors know their roses quite well, and can tell you when each plant was included, why it was added and how it’s grown through the years. This makes visiting such gardens instructive for those who may want to grow some (or all) of the same roses. What’s in *your* rose garden?

Update Your Information

This newsletter is mailed to those who have expressed interest in the Historic Rose Garden at Sacramento’s Old City Cemetery. Please fill out and return or send an email to verlaine@inreach.com.

Do you belong to the Historic City Cemetery Association?

- Yes
- No
- Tell me more

Are you willing to volunteer in the garden or at events?

- Yes
- No

Are you interested in writing for the newsletter or webpage?

- Yes
- No
- Tell me more

The best way to reach me is:

- Email
- Telephone
- U S Mail

Comments:

Name

Address

Phone :

Email:

Nip That Bud

(Continued from page 2)

a large, single bloom. The side buds can be removed when they're about 1/4 long. Be sure to hold the terminal bud so it isn't snapped off as well.

Disbudding to encourage sprays requires the opposite technique; nip off the terminal bud and leave the side buds intact.

Unwanted growth anywhere on the plant can be removed by finger pinching as your fingernails are quite enough to ensure a clean cut on soft new growth.

Dieback should also be removed whenever spotted. This can occur when the rose is pruned in what the plant considers the 'wrong place.' Yes, somehow they know... That cane will then begin to die back from the point of the pruned

end toward the center of the plant. Sometimes dieback stops at the next viable bud, but sometimes it continues into the heart of the plant.

Perhaps pinching is all that's needed, though sometimes dieback requires cutting into a strong stem. Dieback should be cut down the cane until no brown shows.

Finally, remove yellowed leaves as soon as observed. Leaves turn yellow from a variety of reasons (lack of nitrogen, spider mites, age). Pinching them off may not cure the problem, but yellow leaves do nothing to further the growth of the plant.

Nip-it-in-the-bud can give your roses an advantage encouraging them to grow strong and produce many blooms on healthy stems.

Collecting

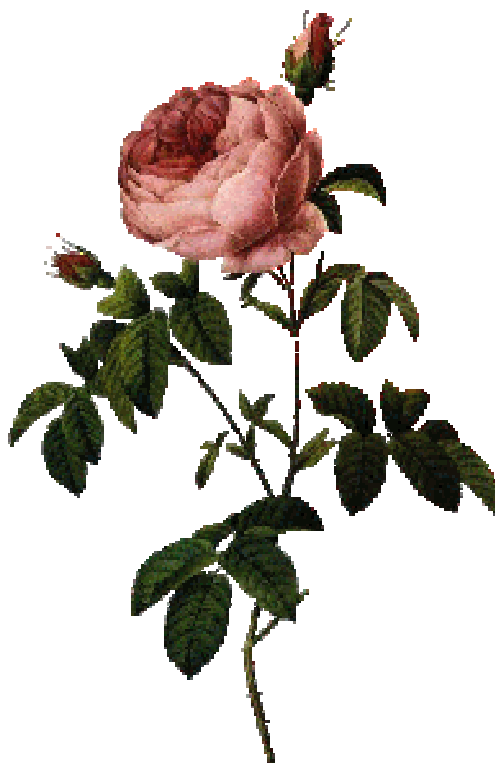
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what we should do; talk about roses and look for the ones that may be hiding in a backyard here in our own town.

Take cuttings when you can. Be sure you know where and when you found a cutting; this will help identify it.

Just one caution: when many collectors take cuttings from the same plant, what's left can be a puny specimen. This is happening in some California locations. Please be careful when collecting.

I'm sending you on a quest! More power to you, get with it!





SACRAMENTO'S
HISTORIC CEMETERY



CEMETERY
ROSE

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



Perks

Historic Rose Garden volunteers receive more benefits than one might think. Not only are volunteers able to spend time working on a project that benefits the entire community, they get to 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!

Quick Garden Tip:
Just The Weeds, Please

If you must use a herbicide and have nasty weeds too close to your roses to spray willy-nilly, here's a tip for you.

Purchase a small dishwashing sponge with a soap container attached. Fill the container with Roundup or your favorite herbicide and dab the weeds without spreading Roundup to garden plants.

Be sure to mark the gadget so that it is NEVER used to wash dishes and store in safe place.



Spring]
Showers?

No matter how cloudy the sky, it won't rain until you water your garden.

Texas Bix Bender