



CEMETERY ROSE

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



Volume 4, Issue 4

June 2005

Inside this issue:

Open Garden	1
Twilight Event	1
Count Your Hours	2
Editorial	2
Cemetery Doings	3
HRF Symposium	4
Rose Garden Plans	5

2005 Open Garden

by Anita Clevenger

Organizers of the 2005 Open Garden nervously watched this spring's weather. Hail, thunderstorms, tornadoes, above-average rainfall and below-average temperatures - what would April 16th bring? Fortunately, it brought sunny skies, beautiful flowers, and well over 200 visitors.

Three gardens were featured. The Native Plant Society provided a display for the welcome table, and visitors were directed to their demonstration garden

Hamilton Square information was also available, and Sharon Patrician was on hand to lead a tour and an-

swer questions. In the Historic Rose Garden, Barbara Oliva led a tour on the history of the roses. Judy Eitzen conducted a workshop on photographing roses. Anita Clevenger offered a tour on her favorite roses. Rooted cuttings and larger plants of old roses, many of them unidentified "found" roses, were offered for sale. Rose memorabilia, including t-shirts, polo shirts, aprons and a catalog of the collection, were available. The Open Garden netted about \$750 for the Rose Garden operations.

Among people attending were members of the Sacramento Perennial Plant Club and the Auburn Garden

(Continued on page 3)

Twilight In The Rose Garden

by Judy Eitzen

Come join us for a little "Midsummer Madness" on June 21, midsummer's eve. Yes, the roses require our attention throughout the year and we're planning an opportunity for those stuck in offices and other indoor activities during the day to come to the Cemetery Rose Garden at 6:30 for a little fun. It's not every day you can get into the Cemetery when it's closed to the public--this is your chance to experi-

ence this peaceful bit of nature in the midst of the city.

Bring your gloves and pruners and plan to spend some time with our beautiful roses, and get a treat, too. We'll enjoy something sweetly decadent under the elms and good conversation among fellow rose-lovers. Whoooooo knows, perhaps we'll spot the owls coming out to hunt.

RSVP to Barbara 443-2146

**Cemetery Rose
Garden
Event:**

**June 21
Twilight Event:
RSVP to
Barbara
443-2146**



Spring & Summer Activities Need You

editorial

There's a lot going on in the Historic Rose Garden and the Cemetery and your help is needed. In fact, I believe that many of you are eager to join in the fun and are just waiting to be asked. Well, consider yourself asked.

Last fall, we identified roses that need attention. During the winter and early spring most of those requiring dormant pruning were pruned. A number of once-bloomers need attention now to be beautiful once again next spring.

For the most part, just a few intrepid volunteers assist with heavy pruning. Activities during spring, summer and fall are somewhat less onerous than winter pruning; deadheading, shaping, propagating for next year, and generally sprucing up the area.

This work can also be fun; great weather, good companions, just a little

bending, stooping, etc. Anita Clevenger has taken over supervising Rose Garden maintenance and is feeling pretty overwhelmed with all that needs to be done. It's time we send her some more willing hands.

If ten volunteers work for just two hours two Saturdays a month over the summer, we would be able to attend to nearly 100 roses. If those same 10 could assist for two hours (just two hours!) each week, we could deadhead and clean up close to half the roses in the collection—in other words, all the once-bloomers that need attention at this time of year.

Haven't got two hours? How about one—you will be most welcome. Call Anita at 455-7561 or just stop by some Saturday morning with your gloves and clippers.

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

Stand Up And Be Counted

by Barbara Oliva

Recently we've been sharing the duty to collect the hours volunteers have worked; but now it isn't working too well; Judy is swamped by many new responsibilities, and it always takes me between a few days to a few weeks to suddenly realize that it's a new month and that means hours worked have to be turned in.

The city really appreciates knowing how wonderfully effective we are as volunteers; or how much free work they are getting (depending on your spin on the situation).

In the past I used to ask people to note hours, where worked, etc. on a notebook in the mailbox in the garden. I also have looked at my calendar and run a guesstimate for the people I knew had worked. That leaves out any who came in on their own and often put in long hours.

Now: I'm happy to do the basic record keeping, that's not too hard. But I'd appreciate some or all of you noticing the change of month and giving me a heads up.

And those of you who go in on your own; would you let me know both your hours, where you worked and what you did? For example; right now there are piles of trimmings down on the south end of the middle road. I think I know which sprangling plants were trimmed, but it's a guess; and I don't know who.

There are several ways you can contact me—
Email - boliva@macnexus.org
Phone - 443.2146. Or the mailbox in the garden (I'll check it regularly)

Thank you in advance for your help! Barbara

"I'd appreciate some or all you noticing the change of month and give me a heads up."

Cemetery Doings

In March, OCCC Board President Lou Demas reluctantly elected to resign for personal reasons. His wife Marilyn has resigned as well. Both as OCCC Acting President, and on a personal level, I very much regret the loss of two enthusiastic Cemetery supporters. Lou and Marilyn gave generously of their time and energy and will be missed.

Four individuals agreed to serve on the Board, filling two existing vacancies and the two recently vacated positions. They are Lonnie Ratzlaff (Rose Garden volunteer), Jane Howell (former Board member), Sabrina Okamura-Johnson (Native Plant Garden), and Lynda Walls (Cemetery webmaster).

Working with City staff, members of the Board have taken on new assignments and developed a number of plans for activities in the Cemetery. Connie Bettencourt and Jane Howell have agreed to co-chair the Tour and Events Committee. Lynda Walls will head the Publications Committee, which is also responsible for publicity and public relations activities in the Cemetery.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Saturday, June 18, 10 a.m., Sacramento & California history—public tour led by Bill Mahan.
- Saturday, June 25 10:30 a.m.—OCCC

2005 Open Garden, cont.

(Continued from page 1)

Club. A contingent of old rose enthusiasts, members of Gold Coast Heritage Rose Group, traveled from Ventura County, San Jose, Reno and Mill Valley. Many of them are already planning their visit to the 2006 Open Garden.

Thanks to the many volunteers who care for these gardens, and who organized an outstanding day in the Old City Cemetery.

By Judy Eitzen, Acting President, OCCC

- annual meeting—Fireman's plot. All members welcome. **RSVP 448-0811**
- Friday, July 8, 7 p.m. Public Evening Tour (Theme TBA) \$5.00 fee, RSVP
 - Saturday July 9 1:00 pm. Tour Training Meeting with Living History group.
 - Saturday, July 16 10 am, Sacramento & California History—public tour led by Bill Mahan.
 - Saturday, August 13 10 am-Plants and Plantsmen; a Horticulture Tour—public tour led by **Barbara Oliva** and **Anita Clevenger**
 - Friday, August 26 7 p.m. **Heroes of Sacramento**—public fundraiser to support the Fireman's Plot Fence. (NOTE: volunteers are needed for this event. Should be fun—fire trucks, ice-cream, etc.)
 - Sept 2-5—Gold Rush Days, Old Sacramento. Vacant lot cemetery. Again, volunteers are needed.

Note that Barbara and Anita will conduct a garden & historical tour. This is one of several events designed to tie Cemetery gardens and history together.

Fall activities are centered around evening tours in October. As this is the major fundraising effort to support restoration and other Cemetery projects, Committee members put a lot of effort and time into these tours.

...note that Barbara and Anita will be conducting a garden & historical tour.

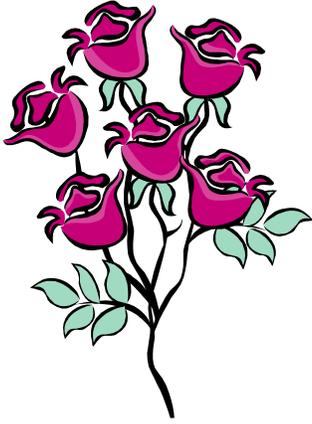
(August 13)



HRF Symposium

by Judy Eitzen

We were very fortunate this year as the 2005 Heritage Rose Foundation national conference was held here in Northern California in conjunction with the annual Celebration of Old Roses in El Cerrito.



Settlers to Spanish, Mexican and American California during the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries brought many plants west with them. In addition to the people, some of the strongest survivors are roses, planted in now forgotten ghost towns, foothill cemeteries, ranchos and abandoned gardens throughout California. These roses, hunted and preserved by relentless rose rustlers are now being grown in gardens like the Cemetery's Rose Garden throughout California. The people who now work so hard to preserve these roses worked equally hard to put together a conference that focused on California's Rose Heritage. Attendees came from around the U.S., Bermuda, Europe, The Virgin Islands and Australia.

*This is horticulture at its highest, highest level...
Gregg Lowrey*

Speakers ranged from amateur gardeners describing wonderful gardens in California to professional rosarians and nurserymen describing roses and plantings thriving in California's benign climate. We heard experts on species roses, the history of roses in California, California rose rustling, gardens with important collections of roses, classes of roses found and grown in California as well as gardening in different parts of the state.

Our own Barbara Oliva was a presenter, and she described a brief his-

tory of Sacramento, the Cemetery, and our garden that has grown to be one of the most important in California. Gregg Lowrey of Vintage Gardens is very well respected among rosarians and one of the organizers of the HRF Conference. In his introductory remarks, he stated, in reference to our Rose Garden and Barbara, "This is horticulture at its highest, highest level."

There was an opportunity to practice with the *Field Report of Rose Characteristics* (which we are using as a guide for our rose ID Project), and to talk with various speakers about their specialties on a one-on-one basis. Meals were spent with rose-lovers, breaks were spent looking at the hundreds of rose samples and photographs, and drinks were served as we argued the merits of planting this or that rose in our own gardens. Additionally, before and after the event, a number of out-of-town (indeed out of state and out of country!) visitors toured the Rose Garden. In short, we spent the better part of a week talking and listening to experts talk about roses, roses, and more roses.

The HRF published a Journal of the Conference that includes all the presentations and articles written by a number of additional California rose lovers - well worth the cost. Copies of the Journal are available for sale for \$25.00. Go to the Heritage Rose Foundation website at <http://www.heritagerosfoundation.org> to order a copy.



OLD CITY CEMETERY
HISTORIC ROSE



CEMETERY
ROSE

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WE'RE ON THE WEB
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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:
Cookery or Gardening?

With this year's weather came rose diseases. Here's Rosemagazine.com's suggested "**All Purpose Rose Disease Fighter.**" They claim it works to combat the "big three" (blackspot, mildew & rust.) Who wants to try it out?

Ingredients:

1 medium onion, chopped
3 - 4 cloves garlic, crushed
½ Jalapeno pepper, crushed
1 ½ tsp baking soda
Cheesecloth or fine mesh
Spray bottle
1 or 2 drops dishwashing liquid (or Insecticide soap) to help mixture adhere to foliage

Preparation:

1. Steep garlic, onion and pepper in 1 quart of warm water for 1 hour.
2. Strain the mix through the cheesecloth or mesh and retain liquid, add the baking soda
3. In spray bottle dilute 1 part of the strained liquid with 4 parts warm water and add the dishwashing liquid.
4. Mist plants lightly.

This formulation has the added benefit of repelling insects as well as being chemical-free.



*Spraying is
something
that male cats
do...*

Roger Phillips