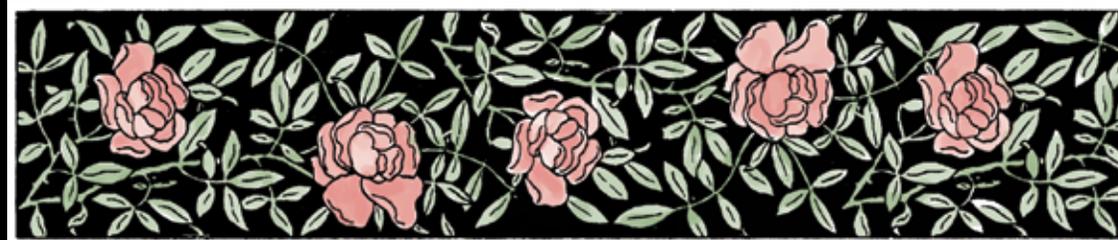




THE *Vintage rose*

December 2018



THE FRIENDS OF VINTAGE ROSES



The Roses of Heliogabalus

Rosalia 2019—A Rose Festival

The Friends of Vintage Roses will host a special event in Sebastopol on May 18, 2019, 11:00 to 3:00 pm.

Rosalia, the ancient Roman festival of roses, is our inspiration for this event, a time to rejoice in the beauty of flowers at the peak of Spring, to adorn ourselves and friends with roses, a reminder of our connection to the earth, and to dedicate bouquets of roses to those who have left this life.

Our purpose is to enlighten, to inspire and to delight all who join us that day, our way of reaching out to those in our local community. We want them to stop and smell the roses.

Our mission is to bring attention to our ongoing work of preserving a collection of living beauty, the thousands of roses curated in our gardens in Sebastopol. We hope to inspire our neighbors to plant, grow and share roses with others. And we hope to illustrate

very simply how roses have been grown through the ages and how both old and modern roses can be used in the garden. We want our fellow Californians to learn that roses are survivors, well adapted to our climate and to varying gardening conditions.

The event will take place at Wischemann Hall, adjacent to the Sebastopol Community and Youth centers, just a few blocks from town square and The Barlow. Wischemann's beautiful dance hall will provide the setting for an educational display of roses through history with hundreds of roses in bouquets.

We are inviting rose groups in the North Bay Area to join us and to share information about themselves. We will emphasize rose preservation groups and the work they are doing to keep roses alive, and to remind the public of our rose heritage. We'll showcase some plantings in cemeteries in Northern California from Sebastopol to Sacramento to Mendocino. Roses adorning cemeteries began with the original Rosalia festivals in Rome.

Finally, to inspire our neighbors to grow roses, both old and new, we will stage a large sale of the old and rare roses we have propagated from our collection here. Other North Bay nurseries will join us to offer a much larger plant sale of everything from annuals and perennials to shrubs and trees.

Rosalia will take place the day before the Celebration of Old Roses in El Cerrito, Sunday, May 19th. That amazing event is a must see, and the coincidence of the two rose events in one weekend will, we hope, encourage the attendance at both events. The Celebration has for nearly 30 years shared our magical collection in the displays it mounts.

The details of the event will be provided in further announcements via email and our website over the next weeks and months. Please spread the word and try to attend. And if you are able, volunteer to help us with the mounting of this special event. We hope to give the expression 'Flower Children' new meaning and new life!



(photo by Darrell g.h. Schramm)

Baronne Henriette Snoy

The Baroness Henriette Snoy was born the daughter of Baron Georges Snoy, a Belgian (who, incidentally, belonged to an international etching society in the 1870s) and Countess Alix de Chastel of Howarderie. Henriette was a lady-in-waiting to Elisabeth of Bavaria, Queen of Belgium. When Henriette in 1902 married Count Frederik (Fritz) van den Steen de Jehay, a diplomat, counselor of the Belgian Legation to Constantinople, she became, of course, a countess. The

New York Times of November 9 declared it the “smartest wedding of the season.” They lived primarily at Chateau



Baronne Snoy's chateau in the aftermath of World War II

de Losange built in early 1700s in the Belgian province of Luxembourg. In 1918, the Count was thrown from a horse and died. Having modernized the old chateau, Henriette Snoy, Countess Steen de Jahay, remained on her property until World War II, during which the chateau was caught in the Battle of the Bulge. Returning to Chateau de Losange after war's end, she found the place virtually in ruins. Undaunted, she had it rebuilt. She died in 1957.

The rose in her honor was released five years before her marriage. Sumptuously full and thick with petals of pale pink or incarnadine—in late autumn outer petals, reflexed, are more intense in color—this fragrant tea rose was bred by Alexandre Bernaix. The flowers grow singly or doubly or in threes and fours on a bush three to five feet high. They are large and cupped, on strong erect canes more like a Hybrid Tea than the light and graceful earlier Tea roses. The foliage is a medium, matt green, thick, and dense on the bush, with three to seven leaflets to a leaf, unevenly serrate, some leaflets biserrate. The stipules are bordered in minute hairs or glands. The plant boasts strong blackspot resistance. Not only does it bloom almost continuously, but it also tolerates more cold than most Tea roses. It continues to be commonly found at rose nurseries.

What We Do and How We Do It

As per our Mission Statement, The Friends of Vintage Roses has been established to preserve and enhance its collection of old and rare roses and to share the collection with other preservation efforts. To preserve them we need to include sites other than just our own local, Sebastopol site. Should a wildfire rip through that collection or a severe drought decimate them, it would be wise to have duplicates growing on other sites.

To that end, we have solicited gardeners as guardians, that is, we have distributed both single roses and whole categories of roses to others willing to be curators. For example, John Bagnasco of San Diego County is curator of Hybrid Teas, Sue Bunte is a guardian of Floribundas on her Napa farm acreage, Susan Feichtmeir in the hills of Santa Rosa oversees the shrub collection, Dan Nauman of Red Bluff serves as a curator of the Pernetianas, Darrell Schramm cares for two potted roses ('Heinrich Wendland' and 'Rev. H. D'Ombraïn'), Pamela Temple volunteers as guardian of the Ramblers and Climbers, and there are a few other caretakers. Thus, should a blight, wildfire, or other catastrophe overtake one or part of one collection, we have another to fall back on.

These efforts and precautions will continue to allow us to provide roses as needed by public gardens and research institutions. Already



'New Orleans Cemetery Rose'
(photo by Darrell g.h. Schramm)

the Vintage Collection has provided roses for the San Jose Heritage Rose Garden, the Historic Rose Garden in the Sacramento Historic City Cemetery, the rose garden at San Marino's Huntington Botanical Gardens, and the Hearst Castle State Park. These are just in California alone. But Vintage has also replaced lost roses for the Heritage Rose District of New York City, the Sakura Heritage Rose Garden in Japan, the Roseraie de l'Hay-les-roses in Paris, the Europa-Rosarium in Sangerhausen, Germany, and Mottisfont Abbey in southern England.

The Vintage Collection has also provided rose DNA for research at Strausbourg in France, roses for pigment research at Kobe University in Japan, Noisette and Tea roses for studies conducted at Florida Southern College in Lakeland, and roses for gene research on Teas and Chinas at Texas A&M University.

Clearly, our preservation efforts are important and vital. We welcome you to become a part of our Mission and work.

DONATE IN DECEMBER

Donate to us and write it off your taxes. Any small donation is helpful. Or you can become a sustaining donor to The Friends of Vintage Roses. That large donation might not be in your budget, but giving a small, recurrent donation is so easy, you hardly miss it. You can sign up to be a sustaining donor at PayPal and give a little each month. We'll send you a letter at the beginning of each year for the total amount you donated in the previous year, and, of course, you can cancel at any time.

'Micurin': A Beautiful Surprise

Pamela Temple



(photo by Pamela Temple)

Around five years ago we received our last batch of Rambler cuttings from Anne Belovich. These were from roses that she had imported from Europe. Many of them had names I was completely unfamiliar with. Even though we grow more than 300 Ramblers, there are hundreds more out of commerce or growing overseas. I was able to find in-

formation on this new group but had no personal experience with them. It was a bit like a mystery box.

One of them was 'Micurin'. It is a Hybrid Wichurana Rambler introduced in 1936. The breeder was Jan Bohm of Czechoslovakia. In 1919 he developed a large nursery near the town of Blatna in southern Bohemia. He hybridized nearly a hundred cultivars of almost every rose class and discovered a number of sports.

I grew 'Micurin' in a pot, and then when ready I planted it in the ground free standing, not knowing exactly what to expect. It grew into a graceful fountain shape as I waited for the blooms. They did not disappoint. The plant was covered with small wine-red blooms that stood out in the garden from a distance. They were a beautiful surprise, and in the fall I received another surprise. 'Micurin' rebloomed.

To The Rescue

Pamela Temple



'Paul's Single White' (photo by Étienne Bouret)

I am a member of The Friends of Vintage Roses. Our organization was established to preserve the important and unique Vintage collection of old and rare roses. There are many reasons to preserve these varieties, but I see them as beauties not to be lost to this world. Success has been a struggle due to lack of resources and manpower.

This past weekend, walking around the property where most of the rose collection is stored, I saw successes and failures among the 3000 varieties, many of which are now cared for in pots. I walked down to the bottom of the garden to view the sad demise of the group of roses imported from France. Due to the lack of funds to



'Alexis Lepere' (photo by Étienne Bouret)

care for them, they had become inundated with blackberry vines and fierce weeds. I was amazed to find a few roses bravely growing on. I became possessed by the idea of saving them myself.

I waded into the thicket and was able to pull two roses out. I put them in a wheelbarrow and pushed them up the hill to toss them into my car. I took them home, freed them from strangling wire grass, and repotted them. Digging into the pots, I found their names: 'Paul's Single White Perpetual' and 'Alexis Lepere'. I will enjoy fostering them, and they will always have a special meaning for me.

I'm thinking that this experience is, in a way, symbolic of what many people could do for the roses in the collection. One small donation could save a rose. Many small donations could possibly save them all, each one a beauty to give joy to the world for years to come.

I hope you will feel inspired to help us save the beauties.

ROSALIA

What: a gathering of rose lovers, a discovery about roses, their history and how to grow them, a sale of rare roses and companion plants, an adornment with roses

Where: Wischemann Hall, 465 Morris St., Sebastopol, CA 95472

When: Saturday, May 18th from 11 am until 3 pm.

Who: The Friends of Vintage Roses, a non-profit established to preserve an historic collection of several thousand roses, based in Sebastopol, CA, in Sonoma County, and sharing curatorship of the roses with preservation-minded individuals and groups across the United States.

- Contact: Gregg Lowery, Curator at curator@thefriendsofvintageroses.org or info@thefriendsofvintageroses.org.
- Our website: thefriendsofvintageroses.org
- Post enquiries to The Friends of Vintage Roses, 3003 Pleasant Hill Rd, Sebastopol, CA 95472

Why: To aid in the work of the volunteers who maintain and help to preserve a great collection of old roses.



The Soul of the Rose

THE FRIENDS' ADOPT-A-ROSE PRESERVATION PROJECT

JOIN US IN PRESERVING A SINGLE ROSE

The Friends have a plan to share the wealth . . . and a bit of the responsibility, with individuals.

We are offering roses for volunteers to take home and adopt, permanently. These are roses currently in pots at our garden site in Sebastopol. At each Dirt Day volunteers may take home a rose to revive and bring back to beauty. In a quick survey of the 4000 or so pots we care for you'll notice a big bunch that are barely visible in the weeds that choke their pots. These are most in need of a foster parent, and we hope you will consider being one. Please note that we are not able to provide a specific rose variety you may wish to own; we do try to propagate roses from the collection to put in the hands of those who commit to preserving.

WHAT WE OFFER TO YOU

- These rose plants will be yours to keep, plant, or maintain in containers as you prefer.
- If you need advice on planting or caring for the roses, we'll do our best to answer your questions and guide you.
- If you should lose the plant, we're willing to assist you finding a replacement or in making one from cuttings.

WHAT WE ASK OF YOU

- Volunteer to help with our clean up and maintenance of the rose collection, both in pots and in the ground.
- Share cuttings back with us so that we can continue to help preserve that variety.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Friends of Vintage Roses exists to preserve and enhance the unique and extensive collection of historic roses developed by Gregg Lowery and Phillip Robinson, to establish the collection in a garden, and to share the collection with other public rose preservation efforts, all for the purpose of educating the public about the importance of the rose to human history, cultures, technology, and science.

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Gregg Lowery, Curator & President
Carolyn Sanders, Treasurer & Membership
Darrell g.h. Schramm, Editor-in-Chief
Joan Olson, Layout Design Editor & Secretary
Steve Dunatov, Business Manager
Pamela Temple, Facebook Editor & Rambler Curator
Sue Bunte, Floribunda Curator
Susan Feichtmeier, Shrub & Hybrid Musk Curator
Linda Perry, Volunteer Coordinator

OTHER MEMBER POSITIONS:

John Bagnasco, Hybrid Tea Curator
Daniel Nauman, Pernetiana Curator
Bill Smith, Old European Rose Curator

CONTACT INFORMATION

General questions: info@thefriendsofvintageroses.org
Re: the rose collection: curator@thefriendsofvintageroses.org
Re: donations: treasurer@thefriendsofvintageroses.org
Volunteering: volunteercoordinator@thefriendsofvintageroses.org