



ROSES ANCIENNES EN FRANCE

(1901 Law Non profit Association not subject to tax)

Our goals: knowledge, cultivation, preservation and promotion of old roses

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Dear Friends,

*Gardens are like dreams, like poems, music or algebra **

Summer is a privileged time, when great numbers of flowers are to be seen – and roses are the highlights. MAY, JUNE AND JULY are often thought of as the 'garden' months, but this is perhaps not quite accurate, as our gardens and our roses take up much of our time throughout the entire year.

We should take advantage of the season to visit beautiful gardens, both small and large, to snoop around garden exhibitions, to exchange cuttings with other enthusiasts, to invite friends who are interested in roses but who are not lucky enough to have gardens, to open our eyes and discover old roses that have been lost, and finally... to dream.

** Hector Bianciotti*

ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING March 8, 2008

240 Registered members

59 Present

19 Proxies

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thank you for being so many present today for this General Assembly, including some from the Paris area and other regions such as Hérault, Nièvre, Loire, Cher, and Drôme.

I am very happy to welcome this morning Mr. Guy Fischer, Vice President of the Senate and a Consul General, and Mrs. Thiers representing her husband and Consul General Michel Thiers, who have faithfully supported our association and without whose assistance we would not have been able to hold the many activities we have since 2005.

I convey the apologies of G. Meylan, Jean-Louis Touraine, Gilles Buna, Christian Coulon and Gérard Roth, as well as those of Mr. and Mrs. Laperrière, unable to attend due to prior obligations.

I am most pleased to welcome Mr. Catterini, President of the French Society of Roses.

Thanks are due to all our administrators for their continuing efforts on various projects, and most particularly to our Secretary Madeleine Mathiot who created an exceptional Bulletin for 2007, to our Treasurer Michel Deschandol for his financial knowledge, and to Marcel Mathiot for being our in-house technical wizard.

Thanks to Odile Masquelier, our Honorary President, for her continued wise counsel.

Thanks as well to the rose breeders, Fabian Ducher our Vice-President, and Mr and Mrs Sarraud, who came all the way from Berry to be with us today.

Special mention and thanks must be given to Jean-Claude Nicolas, who in the last several years has taught us so much about roses through his presentations at our regular meetings, and to Dominique Massad, who has come from Marseille today to talk about "Bank Lutea" roses and discuss some of his new creations.

Faithful friends, the Association exists and flourishes because of you, and your active participation, and I thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

REPORT ON OUR ACTIVITIES DURING 2007

Rose information stands at four major plant expositions:

- **March 24-25, 2007**, Chateau de la Carnière, St. Priest
- **May 19-20-21, 2007**, Courson
- **May 26-27-28, 2007**, Jardins d'Albertas, Bouc Bel Air
- **October 19-20-21, 2007**, Courson

Presentations

- **January 27, 2007**, Jean-Claude Nicolas on "Hybrides remontants"
- **March 10, 2007**, Gérald Meylan on "Rose anciennes et roses modernes: mariage de raison ou mariage d'amour?"
- **June 2, 2007**, Odile Masquelier on "L'histoire de la rose à Lyon au 19ème siècle"
- **November 17, 2007**, Jean-Claude Nicolas on "Wichuraiana"
- **December 15, 2007**, Jean-Claude Nicolas on "Ma vie en roses"

Course

- **March 7, 2007**, a course in rose pruning held at the historic Jardin Botanique in Lyon conducted by Christophe Ferry.

Grignan

- **May 17, 2007**, fifteen members visited Grignan in the Drôme region for the "baptism" of a new rose, organized by the society "Pierres et roses anciennes de Grignan."

Parc de la Tête d'Or, Lyon

- **May 26-27-28 and June 2-3, 2007**, participation in the exposition "Lyon au 19ème siècle", with special exhibits on roses, advice on cultivation, guided tours of the Parc's rose gardens, and a lecture by Odile Masquelier.

Thanks to the Bayer Company, 10,000 leaflets were printed to distribute during the two weekends.

Luxembourg

- **June 6 to 10, 2007**, for the "Congrès Européen des Sociétés de roses", at their special exposition "Rosa Rosarum" Madeleine and Marcel Mathiot represented the Association with our exhibit on the history of roses in Lyon and contacts between Lyon and Luxembourg rose growers in the 19th century, for a very successful event.

Lyon, 8ème Arrondissement

- **September 1-23, 2007**, exhibit on the history of Lyon's rose breeders, in the atrium of the mayoral building, along with displays of maps and stamps on the same themes.
- **September 15-16, 2007**, for the annual "Journées du Patrimoine," the local government focused its programs on roses, with our Association as the major participant, including lectures by Odile Masquelier and Jean-Claude Nicolas, presentation of a new book "Lyon-Rose" by its author Pierrick Eberhard, demonstrations of bouquet arrangements, watercolors by Marie-Claude Cuzin, 19th century dances by the group "Révérence", and "naming" of a new rose from Fabien Ducher as "Rose de Monplaisir." Plus, a plant fair held outside with local rose breeders and horticulturalists.

ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR 2008

Presentations

- **February 2, 2008**, Jean-Claude Nicolas lectured on "La fertilisation des rosiers."
- **March 8, 2008**, after the General Assembly, Dominique Massad lectured on "Les rosiers Banks."

Course

- **May 1, 2008**, Fabien Ducher at his rose center at Chateauneuf sur Loire will demonstrate pruning techniques, with luncheon.

Plant Expositions

- **March 29-30, 2008**, rare plants at Chateau de la Carnière, St. Priest

- **April 26-27, 2008**, local growers at Prissé near Macon

- **May 16-17-18, 2008**, local growers at Courson

- **May 23-24-25, 2008**, rare and Mediterranean plants at Jardins d'Albertas, Bouc Bel Air near Aix-en-Provence.

This year the theme of the **Prissé** plant fair is The Rose, and we will have a major presence there, including discussions, a lecture by Jean-Claude Nicolas, and the "baptism" of a new rose

Visits

- **May 21-25, 2008**, by plane to Rome, visiting renown public and private rose gardens, including Maresa Del Bufalo, Centro Botanico Moutan, Helga Brichet, Roseto Botanico Carla Fineschi, Vittorio Ducrot.

- **May 29, 2008**, a day in the Beaujolais, morning visit to garden of Christiane Morizot at St. Georges de Reneins, local luncheon, afternoon the gardens of the Chateau de Bionnay at Lacenas.

- **June 2, 2008**, a day in the Ardèche, visiting the newly created garden of Eléonore Cruse (opening to the public in May 2009).

Visitors

- **May 14-15-16-17, 2008**, As a result of our participation in the European Rose Societies meeting in June 2007, the Luxembourg Association of Friends of Roses has asked our help in their planned visit to Lyon.

We have proposed: rose gardens of Parc de la Tête d'Or, gardens of Odile Masquelier, of Yvette and Jacques Daru, of Bionnay at Lacenas, Lyon's Museum of Silk, tour of Old Lyon

Major Projects for 2008

- The Association is preparing the dossier to **propose the City of Lyon** as host for the 2015 World Convention of Rose Societies. This should be ready to present in June 2009 at the world meeting in Vancouver, Canada, and we expect to work closely with the Société Française des Roses and Lyon's Department for "Green Spaces" to realize this project.

- We are preparing proposals for financing by local institutions of the **first large wall mural** on the history of roses in Lyon.

- We are working with CNRS on a project for the **conservation of Lyon roses**.

Election to a board vacancy

Pierrick Eberhard accepted the nomination, with the approval of the membership, to fill the Board's vacancy until the 2010 General Assembly.

Questions from the floor

- Michel Grousson proposed efforts to increase rose planting in Lyon and widening contacts outside the city.

- Simone Rinaudo expressed her interest in focusing attention on David Austin roses.

- Gilberte Couren asked for more information on "Altera Rosa," to which Mr. Catterini responded.

- Nimet Gilbert proposed that the Association consider publishing and selling a booklet of Mr. Nicolas's lectures.

- Fabien Ducher described a recent conference at Rumilly and the great interest of the participants in old roses.

An Unusual method of taking rose cuttings

A few months ago, there was talk about a new method of propagating roses from cuttings. Mr. Potrat tells us about this curious procedure in the review *'Semaine Horticole'*.

This can be carried out, says the author, from the first two weeks of July until approximately 10th September. The cuttings are detached with or without a heel, but instead of taking them above the third eye, *they should be taken above the fourth eye in order to retain the 'merithalle'*. This part of the cutting is called the 'onglet'.

These cuttings must be planted under glass in light soil, in a shady position with a northern exposure.

It is at this point that the procedure takes on a very unusual aspect: instead of planting in the accustomed manner, the method used is precisely the opposite. *The cuttings are planted upside down*, or 'head' down, and the 'merithalle' or selected 'onglet' should be covered by soil; the third eye should be just level with the soil.

If one examines what is happening, one is able to see that, very slowly, the heels and the extremities of the cuttings in the open air and under glass, take on a whitish tint forming a ring between the bark and the stem. This is called the '*cambium*', or 'generative zone', which gradually spreads over the whole section to form a 'flange'. This will appear ten or twelve days after planting the cuttings. At this point one should closely examine the cuttings; those that have well formed flanges, thus showing positive signs of taking root, should be selected. And they should be planted under a cloche, but this time the flange must be covered with earth.

The author maintains that this procedure offers the following advantages:

- 1- The cuttings are less likely to rot.
- 2- Growth is more likely and on a larger scale.
- 3- Only the strongest cuttings, those most likely to take, are protected during the winter season; therefore work and protection are economised.

In the spring, the successful cuttings should be given the same care as obtain in the usual methods.

Journal des Roses 1899



Advice to rose propagators

It has been made known that flowerpots made from cow dung and earth are now available and these are most useful when used in propagating rose cuttings.

A man with experience can make 700 - 800 per day. These should be dried in the sun or on the pipe of a stove. Doctor Neubert, editor of the "Garten Magazin", Stuttgart says that this new flowerpot used for cuttings produces the best results when used for propagating roses or ornamental shrubs.

Thanks for this invention go to Mr. Ditlew ELZHOLTZ and Mr. Viggo ELZHOLTZ, from Denmark and both gardeners; they have built a machine especially to manufacture these pots.

Journal des Roses 1877

Rosalix

Yours in roses

Josiane Pierre-Bissey
President

(For those of you who have not renewed their membership)

Would this be a lapse of Memory? It is still time to renew your membership with our association, but do not forget to do this before the summer holidays, if you wish to receive our annual bulletin which will appear with the autumn. Thank you in advance.