Japan Blooms for the 12th International Heritage Roses Conference

A section of the "Wedding Garden" at the Akao Herb and Rose Garden
Photo Sue Zwar
Dear Rosarians of the World Federation of Rose Societies,

The Heritage Convention in Sakura, Japan with a pre- and post-convention tour was most enjoyable. Despite all the difficulties following their national disaster last year, our Japanese friends worked positively with great courage and determination and the result was a most successful 12 days with excellent lectures, great camaraderie among rose friends, interesting excursions and some of the most beautiful rose gardens. The details will be reported elsewhere in this publication.

During my visit to Japan when discussing the 16th World Roses Convention with delegates, it was pointed out to me more than once that attending two conventions in the same year is not a financial possibility for many people. This concern was raised by the South African organising committee at the time of the Japanese postponement. It was generally felt that it would not affect the numbers in South Africa. As at the early bird cut-off we were only halfway there. We are not in any way suggesting that Japan has made all the difference but it is something to be borne in mind for future years.

I therefore urge all Rose Societies the World over to encourage your members to take advantage of a wonderful opportunity to visit the continent of Africa where there is so much that is different to see and where the value of the local currency is in favour of the visitors. Not only will it be a convention with a difference but it is an opportunity for rosarians of the world to get together for uniting friends, making new friends and attending the all important business side of our Federation – meetings, awards and new office bearers.

We, in South Africa look forward to welcoming you to our country. We are doing our very best to make it an enjoyable and most memorable convention for you.

Yours sincerely in roses,

Sheenagh Harris
Because this will be my last edition of *World Rose News*, I need to thank the many people who have walked this path with me. I have always believed a Rose Society is an organisation that brings together people who have a love of roses and who want to celebrate together all kinds of roses, all aspects of rose culture and activities involving roses as well as the people who are engaged in rose-related activities. It is about roses, gardens of and with roses, literature about roses and rose-people.

I am thankful to the WFRS for this opportunity. Through it I have met many people and have made many friends, both in person and by email and have learned new skills. My special thanks go to:

- The many readers of *WRN* who have encouraged me;
- The people in office who have supported me;
- The many contributors of articles and reports to *WRN*;
- The societies which have sent me copies of their publications, even when I could not read the text.
I would like to pay tribute to Dr. Tommy Cairns, my mentor and friend, without whom I would not have been here. He set a standard in the printed editions of WRN that inspired me with the courage to try new things.

I believe the 2 things achieved during my term as editor were:
- Changing from printed to electronic editions gave more flexibility and cut the costs through printing and postage savings;
- Allowing the easy distribution via email and the website. I believe the cost savings and increased distribution will be a positive thing for the WFRS.

I wish our new editor all the success and support I have experienced. In many ways I have had to find my own way and the role was not always quite what I had expected, with some of the expectations of the system being difficult for me. I believe more specific guidelines need to be prepared for the role of editor and others that will define their duties more clearly in the future.

May roses line your path and define your borders.

Richard

Reports on the 12th Heritage Roses Conference
Sakura, May

The WFRS 12th International Heritage Rose Conference 2012 in Sakura
The Conference Organising Committee

The International Heritage Rose Conference 2012 was held in Sakura, Japan, starting with the departure of the pre-conference tour on Mon. May 28, and closing with the farewell party on the night of Wed. June 6. This conference, originally scheduled in May last year, was obliged to be postponed for one year for reasons known to everyone. We extend our sincerest apologies to all those who registered for the conference last year for having put them to a great deal of trouble.

We were able to host the heritage rose conference this year, thanks to the generous decision of Mrs. Sheenagh Harris, the WFRS President, to approve of holding it in the same year that the WFRS world convention is scheduled. Mr. Malcolm Watson, the Executive Director, Mr. David Ruston, the Chairman of the Heritage Rose Committee, and other VIPs of the Federation also have warmly encouraged us in our preparations for the conference. After the natural calamities in March last year, which forced us to give up hosting the conference, many rose loving friends overseas sent us cheering words of sympathy, which strongly encouraged us to restart the arrangements for hosting the conference. Let us take this opportunity to express our sincerest gratitude to all these people.

In hosting the conference this year, we were afraid that very few people would attend it because of the fear of radioactivity from the troubled nuclear power plant. It was a pleasant surprise that we
were able to welcome as many as 163 attendees (including one-day attendees) from 14 countries of the world. Blessed with beautiful weather during the conference period, we were able to share wonderful experiences with our guests from different countries.

It had been a dream that Japan’s rosedom had entertained for decades to host a heritage rose conference in this country. In 1995 we opened a small garden entitled Rose Garden Alba to display roses donated by the late Mr. Seizo Suzuki, and have been looking for the opportunity to host an international rose event in this country. In 2006, when the WFRS world convention was held in Osaka, 90 rose lovers from overseas on their post-convention tour visited the City of Sakura Rose Garden, which had just been opened with roses transplanted from Rose Garden Alba. One of the visitors, Mrs. Odile Masquelier from France, who had given a lecture at the world convention, kindly advised us to plan a small-scale conference in Sakura, with this garden as a venue of the events. Consulting with Takamasa Tsuge, the WFRS vice-president for Far East, Akira Ogawa, a member of the Japan Rose Society, and Yuki Mikanagi, a rose researcher, I decided to give a presentation for inviting a heritage rose conference here, at the 11th International Heritage Rose Conference held in Chaalis, France, the next year. After the deliberation at this conference, it was decided that the next heritage rose conference would be held in Madeira, Portugal in 2009, and in Sakura two years later in 2011.

In October the same year, Dr. Gérald Meylan, the then WFRS President, came over to Sakura, met Mr. Warabi, the mayor of the city, and conveyed his strong will to support the Sakura conference to him.

The conference in Madeira scheduled in 2009 was canceled for various reasons. At the WFRS world convention held in Vancouver, Canada, in June that year, Maebara and Mikanagi were given an opportunity to introduce the City of Sakura Rose Garden to rose lovers of the world at one of the lectures. At the Executive Committee meeting of this convention, our hosting of the International Heritage Rose Conference in Sakura was officially approved.

Since then we had been working hard for the preparations of the heritage rose conference in May 2011. In March that year, when our preparations had been almost finished, Japan was hit by unprecedented natural calamities and the resulting trouble in a nuclear power plant. The latter caused radioactive contamination in the surrounding areas of the plant, which left our minds in turmoil, since we doubted if we could host the conference in this country.

Though our path to the heritage rose conference had by no means been even, we were able to host this important rose event in Sakura for the first time in five years, and to see our old rose loving friends from different countries. Roses in the City of Sakura Rose Garden were at their best when we welcomed our guests. It was our greatest pleasure to have been able to see their smiling faces at parties, at the lecture hall, and on tours.

It has been a decade since we began working for the conference, supported by the help and encouragement from many rose-loving friends of the world. Now that the conference has ended successfully without any serious trouble, what we have to do is to repay their kindness by sending from Sakura various information on roses in Japan. We would also like to continue our efforts to preserve precious heritage roses in co-operation with rose lovers of the world.

Let us extend once more our sincerest gratitude to rose loving friends of the world for their kind support and help to us for the past years. 
(Katsuhiko Maebara)
Greetings from WFRS VIPs

1. Mrs. Sheenagh Harris, the WFRS President, at the Opening Ceremony
Mrs. Harris referred to the unprecedented natural calamities which hit north-east Japan in March 2011, and to the patience and determined attitude people took after those disasters. She then told about the decision of the WFRS to accept the proposal of the postponement of the Heritage Rose Conference in Sakura, adding that she believed Japanese people would overcome the difficulties after the disaster and would do everything to host this important rose event. Now at this opening ceremony she realised that what she had hoped then had come to pass.

Before she ended her greetings, she led the attendees to give silent prayers to the souls of the victims of the natural calamities last year.

2. Mr. David Ruston, the chairman of the WFRS Heritage Rose Committee, at the Conference Dinner
Mr. Ruston said he visited the City of Sakura Rose Garden in 2006, after the world convention in Osaka, and when the garden was just planted. He was impressed by the ardent passion Mr. Maebara had for this garden then, but when he proposed an international heritage rose conference there at the conference in Chaalis in 2007, he honestly wondered if it was not too early to host the conference in Sakura. However, the list of the roses in the garden he saw then contained nearly 1,000 different species and varieties. At the world convention in Vancouver, Mr. Maebara and Dr. Mikanagi gave a splendid presentation on this garden, and Sakura was officially nominated as the city to host the 2011 conference.

This time, he visited the garden and found a most beautiful heritage rose garden there. He expects in a few years it will reach an even higher standard of perfection.

3. Dr. Gérald Meylan, the WFRS Immediate Past-President and the chairman of the Convention Liaison Committee, at the closing of the Conference Dinner expressed his impression of this conference as one of the most significant ones in the history of International Heritage Rose Conferences. He congratulated the organising committee on the success of the heritage rose conference, as the first of such an event after the amalgamation of the WFRS and the Heritage Rose Group.

He had visited Sakura several times, and met the mayor, Mr. Warabi, and the organising committee chairman Mr. Maebara, and he explained the significance of this conference. He feels happy that his support has now borne fruit in this excellent conference.

4. Committee meetings
*Heritage Rose Committee and Conservation Committee (a joint meeting)
1) The WFRS 13th International Heritage Rose Conference
   19 – 23 June, 2013 at Sangerhausen, Germany
2) Discussion on the definition of heritage roses
*Publications Committee
*Executive Committee
1) Two candidates for the host city of the 18th WFRS World Convention:
   Copenhagen, Denmark and Beijing, China
2) Application for a membership:  The Principality of Monaco
3) The restoration work of the Malmaison Rose Garden was started by a French Governmental Institution, advised by the Société Française des Roses “Les Amis des Roses”, in commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the birth of Empress Joséphine. The cost needed for the work has been donated by the Maison Piaget. It is expected to be completed in 2014.
   ( Takamasa Tsuge )
The Lecture Programme
For the conference initially scheduled in 2011, we invited twelve rose experts from different countries as lecturers. As it had to be postponed, three of them were obliged to refrain from giving lectures at the 2012 conference. Fortunately, however, we were able to find replacements, equally able and enthusiastic experts on roses.

Besides the regular lecture series, we organised a commemorative lecture series open to the public on the day just before the conference programme officially started. The two lecturers, Mrs. Odile Masquelier, France, and Dr. Gérald Meylan, Switzerland, gave truly excellent presentations with beautiful slides, and left a profound impression on the audience who filled the lecture hall. The titles of their lectures are:
Mrs. Masquelier: “Odile Masquelier’s Life in her Lyonnais Garden”
Dr. Meylan: “Heritage Roses – Modern Roses, a Happy Wedding”
The only regret about this lecture session was that the lecture hall was not large enough to seat all the people who came to listen to the lectures, and we were obliged to turn some down from entering.

Our regular lecture programme was as follows:

Friday, June 1: Theme: New Topics and Projects in Rose Research
1. Mr. Viru Viraraghavan (India): “Sustainable Rose Growing - the Indian Dream”
2. Mr. Kentaro Okagi and Ms. Harumi Arihara (Japan): “Fragrances of Species Roses Native to Japan”
3. Dr. Zhao Shiwei (China): “Old Roses for Food and Medicine in China”
4. Dr. Hideaki Ohba (Japan): “The Correct Name of Rosa wichuraiana”

Saturday, June 2: Theme: History of Roses
2. Mr. Gregg Lowery (USA): “The Climbing Prairie Rose – Rosa setigera”
3. Dr. Wang Guoliang (China): “A Glance over the Ancient Chinese Roses in the Song Dynasty”
Sunday, June 3 : Theme: Heritage Roses and Their Conservation

1. Mr. Peter Boyd (UK): “Rosa spinosissima – Aspects of its Natural History and Associations with People from Prehistory to the Present Day”


3. Ms. Sally Allison (New Zealand): “New Zealand Also Grows Roses”

4. Mr. Clair Martin III (USA): “Preserving a Public Historic Rose Collection: Rewards and Challenges”

We also set up boards in the lobby next to the lecture hall, and displayed eight posters providing information on recent rose research and rose-related activities.

- Wild Roses and Rose Industry in Iran (Yoshihiro Ueda)
- The Pie Chart of Rose Scents (Rose Fragrance Institute Corp.)
- Art of Ikebana Arrangement Using Heritage Roses (Jiro Ogawa)
- Rosa chinensis spontanea Flourishing in a Private Garden in Japan (Harumichi Watanabe)
- Our Activities for the Conservation of the Natural Habitats of Rosa multiflora var. adenochaeta, Tsukushi-ibara (Kuma River Tsukushi-ibara Association)
- Mystery Roses in Hirado (Society of Hirado Mystery Roses)
- The International Fragrant Rose Trials in Echigo Hillside Park, Nagaoka, Japan (Echigo Hillside Park)

We would like to refrain from commenting on each individual lecture here. Suffice it to say that all the lectures deeply impressed the audience, who listened to them most attentively. The question and answer session after each lecture also enlivened the atmosphere of the hall, and impressed us with the seriousness of rose lovers for learning more about heritage roses, irrespective of their ages or their nationalities. It will not be too much to say that our lecturers and enthusiastic listeners largely contributed to the success of this conference, which was held for the first time in five years, and in the same year when the world convention is to be held. We would like to take this opportunity to extend our sincerest gratitude to all our lecturers and audience.

If you would like to know more about the lectures at this conference, please obtain the conference CD we provided for the attendees. It contains the introduction of all the lecturers, and the full texts of nearly all the lectures. If you would like to have this CD, please contact Akira Ogawa:

a quilasr@h5.dion.ne.jp

(Akira Ogawa)
Parties
Welcome Party
The NPO Rose Culture Institute was asked to take charge of the welcome party of the conference. The largest party the institute had so far organised was one for 100 people. This time, however, we were to arrange a party for as many as 200 attendees with the help of 40 volunteers.

The theme of the welcome party was Sakura City. We decided to feature the products of Sakura. First, five volunteers planned the menu. They visited confectionaries in the city recommended by resident members, tasted their specialities, and decided which of them should be served at the party. Vegetables and rice cooked for the party were all those harvested in Sakura. The Sakura members chose delicious local items expertly.

We had to set up the open space of the rose garden for the party within 30 minutes. This put serious pressure on us. We carried in eight large tables, covered them with cloths, and placed dishes on them. All these were magically done in 30 minutes by the volunteers who turned all their energy to the work.

Among many dishes, the most popular favourites were, to our surprise, grilled chicken on skewers and custard buns, but they could not beat the beautiful roses under the clear evening sky. It was one of the evenings when roses in the garden looked most beautiful. We will never forget the smiling faces of our guests enjoying the party we had arranged among roses in full bloom!

The Conference Dinner
The main theme for the conference dinner was traditional Japanese arts. We set up a folding screen covered with gold leaf as the background of the stage. Roses and other flowers were beautifully arranged on each table by members of the organising committee. When I stepped into the hall before the guests arrived, I felt myself overwhelmed by the gorgeous atmosphere prevailing there.

The Noh dance played by Mr. Kyutaro Hashioka, who has a large build for a Japanese, was a truly excellent feature of the party. The display of ikebana pieces by Mr. Jiro Ogawa drew the interest of Japanese attendees since the flowers used were heritage roses, seldom used in ordinary ikebana pieces. The cuisines served that night were given a favourable reception, though there seemed to have been some complaints that their quantities were a bit too small.
The Farewell Party
The theme of this last event of the conference was encounters and partings. Our guests were enjoying chatting to their old friends they had not seen for a long time, or to new ones they made in Japan. We wanted the arrangement of the hall to complement the friendly atmosphere they were enjoying. The slides prepared by Dr. Yuki Mikanagi showing the events of the past ten days were projected on the screen behind the stage. We were afraid that our guests were feeling tired after various events of the conference, but they seemed to be fully enjoying conversation with their friends. When will they meet next time? And where?

We did our best to organise those parties hoping that they would long remain in the memories of our guests. They are now memories I will always cherish.
(Misako Yoshida)

Day Tours
On the afternoons of the 1st to the 3rd of June, bus tours to places of interest in and around the city were scheduled.

June 1
The first destination was Maison des Coquillages, a French restaurant known for the delicious cuisine it serves. It is also famous for the huge Rosa laevigata plant which covers the whole roof of the building, as well as its beautiful garden. Though the flowers of R. laevigata were finished, we enjoyed the delicious box lunch provided by the restaurant, and then the stroll in the garden.

The buses then took us to Keisei Rose Nurseries, one of the largest rose nurseries in Japan. Its rose garden, well-designed and maintained, attracts over 120,000 visitors every year. When we visited it, the roses there were at their best. We were totally fascinated by HTs and Floribundas planted in orderly designed beds, flowers of shrub roses and David Austin roses blooming on huge plants, old garden roses classified into different groups, and species roses planted in grassland surrounding the
sections of cultivars. Unfortunately we were caught in a passing shower while enjoying the rose garden, but returned to the buses, fully contented with the view of roses we enjoyed for an hour.

June 2
This afternoon, we were divided into two groups and headed for different destinations:

Group 1 first visited Sanapia Herb Garden in the city owned by a health food company, and had a buffet-style lunch in a large hall. Foods served there featured various kinds of herbs grown in the herb garden. The performance of a string trio pleased us, too. After lunch, we strolled in the herb garden, where some rare varieties of roses were also seen. The next destination was Old Hotta House, the former residence of the Hotta family, the feudal lords who ruled this area, and were also important vassals of the Tokugawa Shogunate. Seven parts of this residence have been designated as important national cultural assets. Its typical Japanese style garden is now open to the public. We were welcomed by Mr. and Mrs. Hotta, saw the rooms in the house, and were reminded of the life of the families of feudal lords. Some enjoyed strolling in the garden simply designed with trees and stone lanterns, and were impressed with its serene atmosphere.

Group 2 first visited Iinuma Honke Sake Brewery, with a history of 400 years. After the lunch in an old private house on the premises, we saw the brewery, and listened to the explanation of a factory worker on the process of sake brewing: how rice is refined, fermented by the work of aspergilla, and finally refined into sake. After many questions were asked and answered, we moved to a different building, and tasted different types of sake. Then we strolled in the garden of the old private house, thinking of the life of common citizens in old days.

Leaving the brewery, we arrived at Mr. Hanei’s garden in ten minutes. The garden, which Mr. and Mrs. Hanei have carefully maintained for forty years, consists of a Japanese style section on the left of the path and a western style section featuring roses on the right. We can imagine how hard the couple have been working to complete this beautifully designed, well-balanced garden with its quiet atmosphere.

In the western style section, when roses are at their best, the garden is open to the public. Music concerts are sometimes given there, and neighbours can relax and enjoy themselves among beautiful
flowers. Plants in the Japanese style section are those with quiet, subdued colours, well matched with a tea house there. We spent a glorious afternoon in the garden, enjoying cookies and tea served by the owners. On behalf of the group, Mrs. Harris, the WFRS President, extended her gratitude to the owners, and we bade farewell to them and their beautiful garden.

June 3
We visited the Kawamura Memorial DIC Museum of Art, which boasts a superb collection of paintings, from impressionists’ works to contemporary arts. A special exhibition entitled “Flowerscapes”, featuring paintings of flowers in different ages, was being held when we visited the museum.

In the outbuilding gallery, another exhibition, sponsored by the conference organising committee, and featuring paintings of roses by three lady artists was also being staged. We moved from one room to another, appreciating paintings of various styles. The museum is located in a natural environment with a lake surrounded by green woods. Some of us, sitting on a bench in the garden, and viewing the quiet scenery around the museum, spent a quiet and restful time, while some from oversea countries, strolling on the path around the lake, looked for herbaceous plants not seen outside Japan.

Then we moved to the City of Sakura Rose Garden, and spent the rest of the afternoon of our last day of the conference in Sakura among the heritage roses, many of them at their best. Members of the volunteer group, who prepared drinks and light meals at the welcome party here, served tea and cakes for us again. Also, in the old farmer’s house in the garden, members of the Sakura Tea Ceremony Association served us traditional Japanese style tea. We returned to the conference hotel when evening was drawing in.

(Katsuhiko Maebara and Akira Ogawa)
PRE- AND POST-CONFERENCE TOURS

Pre-Conference Tour to Kyushu, the Natural Habitat of Tsukushi-ibara, Rosa multiflora var. adenochaeta

Early on the morning (7:00 a.m.) of the 28th of May, nineteen tour group members met at Haneda Airport, and flew southwestward to Kyushu. Three more joined there, and 22 members enjoyed a three day tour for viewing roses and cultural experiences in Kumamoto Prefecture.

On arriving at Kagoshima Airport, we were welcomed by the members of the ‘Network of Forest, Flower and Human Being’ group.

After lunch at the hotel, we went to see the natural habitat of Tsukushi-ibara, Rosa multiflora var. adenochaeta, in Nishiki Town, next to Hitoyoshi City. The flowers were at their best, and I believe everyone had a nice time walking along the bank of the Kuma River filled with the sweet scents of wild roses and honeysuckles.

That night, a magnificent welcome party was held for us by the ‘Network of Forest, Flower and Human Being’ group, with 140 attendees at the hotel Ayu-no-sato. We fully enjoyed the nice foods and beautiful music, and were overwhelmed by the cordial hospitality of people in Hitoyoshi and surrounding towns!

On the second day, we had a wonderful breakfast on the bank of the Kuma River. The weather was nice, and smiling faces of local volunteers made us very happy.

Since the spring of last year, when we decided to postpone the conference, I discussed our plan of this tour a great deal with my friend, Mrs. Kaoru Ogawa, the president of the ‘Network of Forest, Flower and Human Being’ group, and the past president of the ‘Kuma River Tsukushi-ibara Association’, whose members have been working hard on the conservation of Tsukushi-ibara for more than 10 years. She and her friends sincerely love Tsukushi-ibara and the nature of their hometown, and they were very happy to
welcome rose experts from different countries to this area. There were so many things they wanted to show us, e.g. historic places, cultural assets and beautiful scenery, and it was really difficult to choose places to visit.

I hope everyone enjoyed the rose garden in Eco-park Minamata, rapids shooting down the Kuma River, old shops of Japanese green tea, miso, and a blacksmith’s workshop, and the farewell party at the Aoi-Aso Shrine. Under a huge tree of Podocarpus in the shrine garden, a cellist Mr. Yoshihiro Kikkawa played ‘Sohran-bushi (Japanese folk song)’, ‘Libertango’, ‘Amazing Grace’, ‘What a Wonderful World’, and finally, ‘Danny Boy’. During the farewell greeting with the melody of ‘Danny Boy’ lingering in the air, Mrs. Kaoru Ogawa could hardly hold back her tears, and all the members at the party were deeply moved. We all understood how she and her friends worked hard to welcome us, and how they were satisfied with the results of their efforts. Mrs. Georgina Campbell kindly gave touching words to convey our gratitude to her. Thank you Georgina!

Early on the morning of the 31st of May, we left Kagoshima Airport, receiving a hearty send-off by our friends in Kumamoto. They must have felt very honoured to have welcomed guests from abroad to the natural habitats of Tsukushi-ibara, which they have cherished for many years. I am sure the visit of overseas guests has made them unite more strongly, and renewed their power to continue their activities for protecting the Tsukushi-ibara they love so ardently.

Post-Conference Tour to Kamakura, Atami, Hakone and Mt. Fuji, the Natural Habitats of Sansho-barra, *Rosa hirtula*, and other species roses

I know one of the pleasures of visiting other countries is to see natural habitats of wild roses there. Hoping that our guests to the conference would think the same way, I proposed to the conference organising committee a plan of the pre- and post-conference tours including visits to some natural habitats of wild roses in Japan.

There were 58 participants in this tour, and we traveled in two buses. On the morning of the 4th of June, our buses crossed Tokyo Bay by way of the Aqua-Line, a long bridge and a tunnel connecting the two sides of the bay. First, we visited Kamakura, an old capital town from the 12th to the 14th centuries, and saw the great statue of Buddha. Some of our brave friends went into the dark inside of the statue!

After lunch at a seaside restaurant, we arrived at the Hotel New Akao in Atami city. This area is called “The Japanese Riviera”, and is famous for its hot springs, mild climate, and places of scenic beauty. However, the reason why we selected this hotel was that it owns a wonderful rose garden opened on the sides of a valley, named ‘Akao Herb & Rose Garden’. Our buses took us to the top of the hill overlooking a small inlet and the Pacific Ocean beyond it. From there we strolled down the path on the steep hillside, admiring roses which filled the small gardens each with a unique theme, and a design which well suited it. Since last year, young lady gardeners have been working very
hard, looking forward to our visit to their gardens. They were very happy to see us admiring the picturesque gardens they had been maintaining with tender loving care.

At dinner, Miss Aki Suito, a pianist and a member of our conference organising committee, played the piano for our guests. One of our friends told me, ‘It’s wonderful to have dinner with such good music, and she is playing just for us!’ When the dinner was over, I went to the basement of another building of the hotel with some guests to enjoy drinking and shooting at the gallery on a reconstructed street of a city some decades ago. I heard some other ladies (and gentlemen?) tried to go to a large Japanese style public bath in the hotel. I like taking a Japanese style bath, but I knew it was difficult for our friends from other countries to take a Japanese bath, and wondered how they got on, but when I went there, it was too late. I found no one there.

On the second day, before breakfast, Mrs. Girija and Mr. Viru Viraraghavan told me that they found species roses in the grounds of the hotel. After breakfast, I went to see them and there were two species roses blooming: Rosa luciae (= R. wichuraiana, Teriha-no-ibara) and R. onoei var. oligantha (Azuma-ibara).

We had a good start for the day in our quest for species roses. Though our aim that day was to see flowers of R. hirtula (Sansho-bar), I was worried about its flowering period, which changes depending on the weather of the season, and planned to visit natural habitats at different altitudes. Before we got to our destinations, we could see snow-covered Mt. Fuji, the highest mountain in Japan, from the Jukkoku Touge Pass,
in spite of the thick clouds covering the sky. It was really a miracle!

First, we stopped at the Shojin-Ike Pond (alt. 850m). We found a lot of tall trees of R. hirtula around the pond, but they had no flowers yet. We could see R. fujisanensis (Fuji-ibara) there, too, but no flowers either. The next place was the Ashi-no-yu Flower Centre (alt. 800m), but no flowers there again. I believed we could see flowers at our final destination, Hakone Botanical Garden of Wetlands (alt. 600m), and honestly, I really felt relieved to see them in front of the garden gate. We found flowers of R. nipponensis (Takane-ibara), R. davurica (Karafuto-ibara), R. rugosa (Hamanasu) and R. fujisanensis planted in the garden, too. I was very happy to see our guests enjoying the well-maintained collection of the garden, especially to see Mr. Peter Boyd and Mr. Gregg Lowery giving cheers to every tree, shrub, herb and fern.

That day, we stayed at the Hotel Mt. Fuji, which is located on the northwest side of the foothills of Mt. Fuji. I heard again that some ladies tried a hot spring Japanese bath at this hotel, and it delighted me very much!

Unfortunately, it was raining on the morning of the last day. We went up to the halfway point of Mt. Fuji by bus. When I saw a mass of snow on the roadside, I realized that spring is slow in coming here this year. When we arrived at the fifth station of Mt. Fuji (alt. 2305m), it was too chilly and raining hard. I took only those who wished to see R. nipponensis to its natural habitat. After a short walk into the woods, we could see small bushes of R. nipponensis just opening their leaf-buds.
After the small but freezing expedition, we came down to our last stop, the Kawaguchi-ko Music Forest Museum, which has a collection of music boxes, a French restaurant and a rose garden. Weather changed for the better, and we had a rest with a good meal, music and flowers. This museum is located at alt. 800m, and early-flowering roses, e.g. R. laevigata and R. banksiae var. lutea were in full bloom.

From the Music Forest Museum, we headed straight for the Hotel Nikko Narita near Narita International Airport. All the way through the post-conference tour, I felt sorry that the tour guide from the travel agency did not speak English, and I had to be an interpreter on bus Number 1 despite my poor English. Thank you very much for the patience of passengers on bus Number 1, and for the great help of Mr. Kelvin Trimper!

For me, this tour was a wonderful experience, sharing a precious time with rose-loving friends from all over the world, and enjoying talks with them on all three days. I hope all the members of the tour group will have good memories of the tour, as well as vivid impressions of lectures and gardens in Sakura, to take home.
(Yuki Mikanagi)

Pre-Conference Tour
David and Crenagh Elliott, Victoria BC, Canada

Twenty two people gathered at Haneda Airport Tokyo early in the morning of May 28, 2012 for the pre-tour of this conference. Participants included representatives from Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, South Africa (WFRS President Sheenagh Harris) and the United States. First we met some old rose friends for breakfast and anticipated making new ones. Then at the airport we were greeted by Dr. Yuki Mikanagi who was to lead us. The flight from Haneda to Kagoshima gave a view of Mount Fuji before the cloud level concealed the ground.

Kagoshima is located at the southern tip of Japan. As we emerged from the baggage pickup area at Kagoshima airport we were greeted by TV cameras and a group from Hitoyoshi with a welcoming banner. This was our introduction to the welcome we received throughout the conference.
From Kagoshima we had a one hour bus ride to Hitoyoshi which was to be our base for the next three days. On arrival in Hitoyoshi we checked into the Hotel Ayu-no-sato for lunch and then proceeded to Nishiki Town Office for a welcome from the Mayor. Then we were off to see the roses we had come for. The local people with the assistance of Yuki Mikanagi have created a conservation area for *Rosa multiflora* var *adenochaeta* on the flood plain of the Kumagawa (Kuma River) done in such a way that the work is almost undetectable. With the assistance of the local authority paved walking tracks have been put in and even lights for night viewing. *Rosa multiflora* var *adenochaeta* varies greatly from almost white to dark pink. It flowers later than *Rosa multiflora* and earlier than *R. wichurana/wichuriana/luciae*.

In the evening we were treated to a welcoming banquet with many of the locals, a formal evening with many Japanese ladies in kimonos. We were shared out around the tables but the organisers had ensured that there were English speakers with all their guests. Our local host proved to be the wife of the owner of the hotel which we were in for the following two nights. On the second day we rode the local train to the *Rosa multiflora* var *adenochaeta* area for a breakfast provided by the volunteers who have helped create the conservation area. Later we traveled to Minamata to visit the commemorative Eco-Park, a glorious rose garden which commemorates a disastrous mercury leak of some years ago.

That evening we moved to different hotels and were ourselves placed in a heritage Ryokan (inn) with the traditional bedroom with futons on the floor. It was definitely a different experience, but much more comfortable than we had expected. We took advantage of the (in house) hot spring bath the following night which was very relaxing. Our translator of the previous evening was the wife of the owner.

Our last day in Hitoyoshi was more of a sight seeing day
starting with boating down the Kuma river, an excellent lunch in a local restaurant followed by a visit to the grounds of the original castle and finishing with a box dinner in the grounds of the Aio-Aso Shrine, a shrine constructed in 1604. Here we were greeted by a Samurai warrior and then entertained by a jazz cellist.

In the morning we were transported back to Kagoshima for the flight to Haneda, Tokyo and a bus to the Natural Museum of Natural History in Sakura City to join the rest of the conference delegates.

It was a most enjoyable pre-tour, made more so by the welcome we received everywhere from the Japanese people, and a suitable start to the best Rose Conference we have attended to date.

The Twelfth International Heritage Rose Conference in Sakura – 2012.
Helga Brichet with Christina Meylan.- Photos Christina Meylan

Yes, at last it happened, we were there, we had arrived in Sakura for the much dreamt of and desired Heritage Rose Conference. It had been dreamt of and desired by the city, the organisers and their many volunteer workers, but also by the participants from numerous countries around the world. It was a joy to find smiling, happy friends as they found their way from the airport or the pre-tour to the hotel. It was a joy to see the pride and excitement on the faces of Katsuhiko Maebara and his co-workers, after a year of stress and anxiety for the entire Japanese nation. A delightful welcome to the hotel was also the Ikebana flower arrangement exhibition in the lobbies sponsored by the Sakura Ikebana Association.

The day preceding the official opening of the Conference, and awaiting the arrival of all the participants, two general lectures were offered to the public in the auditorium of the National Museum of Japanese History, venue of the subsequent lectures during the following three days. Odile Masquelier and Gérald Meylan were greeted by the mayor of Sakura City, Kazuo Warabi, who welcomed all rose lovers from near and far to his city. Thereafter buses took guests to the welcoming party at the Sakura Rose Garden, Kusabue-no-oka, situated in the woody hills outside the city, where an area of some 13,000 square metres is home to about 2,500 rose plants of 1,050 varieties, including some rare and precious heritage roses. The garden was pure magic, the roses were at the height of their bloom, and guests were delighted to wonder along the paths dividing the 16 sections of the garden, which harmonises with the traditional Japanese countryside, enjoying the fragrance and sumptuous colours of thousands of blooms. Volunteers offered drinks and light meals on the perimeter of the central lawn area where Katsuhiko welcomed attendees to his precious collection, which embodies his and the late Seizo Suzuki’s ideals of collecting and preservation.
The following morning the conference was officially opened by Katsuhiko, President Sheenagh Harris and Vice-President Takamasa Tsuge. The theme of the four lectures, presented by Viru Viraraghavan (India), Kentaro Okagi et al (Japan), Zhao Shiwei (China) and Hideaki Ohba (Japan) was “New Topics and Projects in Rose Research.” The afternoon bus tour took us to the French restaurant La Maison des Coquillages, set in a beautifully informal and scrupulously maintained garden, where lunch was served in boxes formed of dried leaves on tables comfortably scattered throughout the setting.

This was followed by a visit to the Keisei Nursery’s 30,000 square metres Rose Garden with 7,000 plants of old and modern roses, as well as its Garden Centre with roses, other plants and various gardening goods.

The topic of the lectures on the second day was "History of Roses" and the lectures were presented by Ingrid Verdegem (Belgium), Gregg Lowery (USA), Wang Guoliang (China) and myself (Italy).

There was a choice of visits for the afternoon – the Sanapia Herb Garden followed by a traditional Japanese residence and a quiet garden belonging to the Hotta family, or a visit to a sake brewery followed by a private garden in the suburbs of the city.

The theme of the lectures on the final day of the Conference was “Heritage Roses and their Conservation.” The speakers were Peter Boyd (UK), Di Durston (Australia), Sally Allison (New Zealand) and Clair G. Martin III (USA). This was followed by a visit to the Kawamura Memorial DIC Museum of Art, which occupies an area of about 30 hectares with many different kinds of trees and herbaceous plants. There was an impressive collection of 20th century art as well as traditional Japanese art and modern American works. In addition, a special exhibition by three rose painters had been organised for the heritage Conference: the works of Yukiko Ryugo, Michiko Ishikawa and Etsuko Matsumoto were greatly admired by all present.

Towards the end of the afternoon, delegates were delighted to be taken back to the City of Sakura Rose Garden for tea and our last snapshots of this beautiful garden.
The Conference Dinner took place in the evening where a delicious meal was laid on for us while watching a traditional Noh representation of the god’s dance of “Takasago.” It was followed by a demonstration of Ikebana by Jiro Ogawa, before the President Sheenagh Harrisi, presented WFRS Commemorative medals to the Mayor of Sakura, Kazuo Warabi, to Katsuhiko and to Yuki Mikanagi.

On behalf of the WFRS Gérald Meylan thanked the Mayor, the organising committee, voluntary helpers and all those who had contributed to making the 12th International Heritage Rose Conference such an outstanding success.

Post Scriptum: during the Conference meetings of the Executive Committee, the Publications Committee and the Heritage Roses Committee were held. At this last meeting it was agreed to accept the application of the Europa-Rosarium Sangerhausen and the City of Sangerhausen to stage the 13th International Heritage Rose Conference in that city from 20th to 24th June, 2013.

The Post-Conference Tour
Sue Zwar, Australia

After the fabulous conference we’d just experienced, we were delighted that the euphoria could continue as two bus loads of us enthusiastic rose lovers headed off towards Mt Fuji via scenic stop overs.
We drove via the Tokyo Bay Aqua-Line Express Way where the ingenuity of Japanese engineers and road builders was mind boggling. From huge multi-storied viewing decks in the middle of Tokyo Bay we could look out over the bay and back to the city of Tokyo bathed in brilliant sunshine. From there the buses continued in a tunnel under the harbour and Yokohama before emerging into daylight once more. What an experience!

It was then on to Kamakura where we viewed the Hasedera Temple housing a huge hollow statue of Buddha which some of us were able to get inside. From there we sampled the first of a delectable series of meals, a superb luncheon at the Kamakura Prince Hotel.

During the afternoon we drove to Atami City, a Japanese “French Rivera”, and it was here that I experienced what was for me and many others, the highlight of the tour.

We were taken to the Akao Herb and Rose Garden on the outskirts of Atami City, a garden of 8.5 hectares meandering its way in a series of gardens down a rocky hillside and nestled into the mountain, the area overhung with Japanese maples, camphor laurels, conifers and cherry trees. We began our tour at the top of the slope with the restrained “Japanese garden” where bonsaied conifers, rocks and raked gravel gave little hint of the riotous colour that was to come. It was then on to the “English rose garden” which was absolutely brimming with luxuriant, voluptuous blooms. Large shrubs were teamed with simple hardy perennials and annuals squeezed into every gap; archways and trellises filled the heights. From there, the view over the “Wedding garden” brought gasps of amazement from us all. Spread before us down a steep slope was an amazing array of roses in all shapes and sizes, trained up pillars and along swags, trellises of roses, bushes and shrubs. Dortmund covered a long walkway, Lavender Dream was hedged along a winding pathway, Sally Holmes formed
a tall pillar and the signature rose that we came across in so many places – Angela – formed a bright splash of pink on much of the trellising. Wandering our way down this steep slope was a pure delight. Next came the “Cafe terrace” which was framed by an unlikely combination – the scarlet semi-double Sarabande and the aptly named yellow/orange Sahara. What a stunning picture this made. It was backed with white roses – swagged Summer Snow and White Goose and bushes of Iceberg and Edelweiss. And all along the high sloping rock face of the entire garden, trained along wires, were a variety of ramblers. At the base of this inspired picture was the “Herb garden”, set out in an Italianate style, geometrically designed with semi-circled hedges of green and gold conifers and Japanese box coupled with low balustrades and offering a remarkable view over the rocky coastline far below. Here The Fairy was used extensively with its white and cerise sports, along with lavenders and rosemary with simple annuals and perennials filling in spaces – marigolds, begonias, dianthus, scabious, daisies, nepeta and campanula. Planted here were large groupings of Delbard roses and oak leafed hydrangeas to give some height and at the entrance were archways of Pierre de Ronsard and Albertine. I’ll never forget the Akao Herb and Rose Garden for its sheer exhuberance and abundance of colour and variety in both roses and other plants coupled with the ingenuity of design which made use of the difficult terrain so effectively.

The next day we headed north towards Mt Fuji in pursuit of the natural habitat of Rosa hirtula, a form of Rosa roxburghii normalis, with the same crinkled pink single blooms and chestnut like buds and hips, but growing into tree dimensions.

It was soon afterwards that our buses stopped at a lookout point and it was here that we got our first (and only) view of Mt Fuji, just as it looks in all the pictures, a scene from a fairy story – a single, completely symmetrical, volcanic mountain peak covered with snow. We were all very excited especially as we were told that at this time of the year the view is usually completely cloud-covered.

At 850m we stopped at Shojin-ike Pond where we found clumps of Rosa hirtula growing as tall as 4 metres and all in tight bud. (We’d seen quite a few plants growing in various gardens during the conference, but they had all finished flowering). Our next stop was at Ashinoyu Flower Centre where Rosa hirtula was growing in groves around the parking lot – again in tight bud. However, we took time out to wander through the centre which housed magnificent hydrangeas of many varieties in all shades of pink, blue and white as well as brilliantly coloured single and double begonias.

From here we travelled to the Hokone Botanical Garden of Wetlands, a unique place displaying most of the aquatic plants seen in Japanese wetlands and established in 1976. It was formerly a rice paddy area and is now a fascinating garden traversed by a series of board-walks meandering through a wonderland of swamp plants. It was here at 650metres above sea level that we finally came across R. hirtula in flower – it was much photographed that day!!
Our final day took us high above the plains to 2,300 metres to “the 5th Station of Mt. Fuji” and the only day we struck rain and cold weather. It was here that Yuki Mikanagi, our encyclopedia of knowledge, took the more intrepid of us up a slope to see the tiny *Rosa nipponensis* struggling away on that bleak cold mountainside, a tiny suckering group of plants just coming into bud.

We then returned part way down the mountain to the final destination for John and me as we had to leave the tour half a day early. This time it was another unique and amazing experience, the Kawaguchi-ko Music Forest Museum at the foot of Mt Fuji about 800m above sea level. The complex was designed to emulate a grand French or German design (the castle of Versailles or mad King Ludwig comes to mind!) and the automatic grand pipe organ and musical complex had to be seen, and heard, to be believed. At 12 noon in the garden an automated “conductor” played 'Rondo Alla Turca' while the fountains moved in time to the music. Water was everywhere, running in well regimented streams around buildings, under bridges and into ponds. Topiarised conifers gave structure and weeping cherries and willows gave added grace and softness. Then there were the roses, mainly modern, adding colour and charm to the whole design. *Belle Story* and *Shropshire Lass* covered the wall of one building, *Dublin Bay* another and a bright single rose another. *Rosa banksiae lutea* in full flower smothered a gazebo, while *Rosa laevigata* with its exquisite white blooms flowered nearby, showed the high altitude of the Forest Museum.

Sadly we couldn't do this garden justice – it was off to the railway station after a sad farewell to all our wonderful rose friends and very hospitable Japanese hosts. Mr Maebara and his hard working committee are to be congratulated on the varied, fascinating and uniquely Japanese itinerary they chose for us, something we will always treasure. We can't speak highly enough of the courtesy, kindness and overwhelming hospitality we were shown at all times down to the smallest detail, to say nothing of the superb meals – a story in themselves!

**Other Reports from Japan**

**Akira Ogawa**

1. ‘Kizuna’, Bonds of Friendship through the Love of Roses

In the June 2011 issue of the WRN, the Japan Rose Society reported on the rose-related situation in Japan after the unprecedented natural calamities on March 11. At the end of the report, we expressed our gratitude to our friends overseas for their kind consideration for us, and our hope for
the promotion of international friendship based on the common love of the rose. We feel very happy to be able to report on an excellent case of such international friendship cemented through the love of this flower.

The following episode is briefly reported by Ms. Madeleine Mathiot in the autumn 2011 issue of the journal of the Old Rose Society of France (Roses Anciennes en France). The same issue also carried the full text of Nozomi, the Little Girl Who Became a Rose, a booklet written by Mrs. Keiko Watanabe, and translated into French by Mrs. Odile Masquelier. The president of the society, Ms. Marielle Jourdan-David, kindly announced that the issue is to be dedicated to Japanese friends who experienced the catastrophic tsunami in March.

It all started when Ms. Miho Mori, a Japanese member of this society, received an email from the society soon after the disasters in March, asking her if there was anything it could do for people in distress. Moved by the kindness of her friends in France, Ms. Mori replied, “Please donate a rose which can be commercialised in Japan, so it will benefit the disaster victims”, though she knew it was a rather reckless request.

However, her message was forwarded to the breeder members of the society, and Mr. Dominique Massad, a breeder from the Guillot family with a long, glorious history of rose breeding, immediately responded to the request from Japan. He offered to donate one of the roses he had bred, and proposed to send it to his representative in Japan, Mr. Namoto, who runs a nursery in Shikoku, a main island in the southwest of the country, and asked him to find a way to commercialise this rose in Japan.

In August, Ms. Mori and Mr. and Mrs. Namoto went to Lyon, and met Mr. Massad. They visited the Japanese consulate there, and explained their project to support Japan. In October, Ms. Mori and her helpers, consulting with Mr. Massad, selected the rose called Jolanda as the variety to be sent to Japan. Ms. Mori says she was deeply moved by the kindness of Mr. Massad, who not only offered the donation of his rose, but had given unsparing advice to her on finding an appropriate variety from a specialist’s point of view, since the first time they met. She considers that the rose thus selected carries an unfathomable significance, always reminding us of the kind consideration of people with friends in distress in distant lands and of the close friendship between rose lovers of the world.

Ms. Mori and her colleagues decided to adopt Kizuna as the Japanese name of this rose. “Kizuna” means “ties”, most frequently in reference to close bonds of friendship -- the most appropriate name in praise of the close friendship between people in two distant countries.

The rose arrived in Japan in December, and is now being propagated at Mr. Namoto’s nursery to be sold as container-grown roses. At the same time, two other nurseries are testing the possibility of propagating it to be used in the cut-flower business.

Ms. Mori and Mr. Namoto have organized a new project team, and are applying for the establishment of a Non-Profit Organisation “France-Japan Charity Rose Kizuna” for the management of the donation fund. All the money raised by selling the rose donated by Mr. Massad is to be sent to the disaster-stricken areas to help orphans who lost their parents in the earthquakes and tsunami in March last year.

Ms. Mathiot closes her report in the above-mentioned journal with the following sentences: “Thus, the marvelous adventure of Lyonnais and Japanese roses, which began in 1862 with a package of R. multiflora seeds sent from Japan, is about to continue. In fact, those seeds allowed Guillot Fils to
hybridise and introduce the first polyantha rose Pâquerette. Today, a descendant of the Guillot dynasty offers in turn a rose to the Empire of the Rising Sun.

Nice story, isn't it? We are indeed quite proud.” (Translated by Ms. Diane Julien)

It certainly is a nice story, but it did not end there. The rose donated by Mr. Massad is a salmon-pink, highly fragrant floribunda variety created by the crossing: Versigny x Jocelyne Salavert. It means that a distant descendant of a Japanese species rose Rosa multiflora, has returned, in a graceful figure, to the land of its ancestor, in order to help people in distress because of the serious damage caused by natural calamities.

The WFRS 12th International Heritage Rose Conference was held in Sakura, Japan, from the 1st to the 6th of June with an attendance of over 160 rose lovers from 14 different countries. Preceding the conference, the organising committee planned two lectures open to the public in commemoration of this important international rose event. These lectures were given by two world famous rose experts, Mrs. Odile Masquelier, France, and Dr. Gérald Meylan, Switzerland, and attracted a large number of rose lovers overflowing out of the lecture hall. Both the lectures left indelible impressions on the audience with their eye-opening, highly informative topics, and also with the beautiful slide shows the lecturers staged.

That night, Mr. Iino, a member of the NPO “France-Japan Charity Rose Kizuna”, visited the conference hotel to see Mrs. Masako Takano (committee member), who was the founder and the first president of Roses Anciennes en France. He conveyed the sincerest gratitude from those engaged in the charity project to rose-loving friends in France, and presented her with a bouquet of Kizuna. The bouquet was brought to the conference lecture hall the next day, and was placed on the rostrum table, to be displayed to the audience. The Kizuna rose played its role at this conference, too, impressing all the attendees with the tight bonds of friendship among people of the world - friendship founded on the basis of their common love of the rose.

Mr. Akira Atomi’s Photo Book
Akira Ogawa, Japan

One of the important annual rose events in Japan is the International Roses and Gardening Show held in a baseball stadium in the outskirts of Tokyo. The Japan Rose Society is one of its co-sponsors. It is held in May every year, and in its six to seven day period, attracts over 200,000 rose lovers and garden enthusiasts. Garden designers, both amateur and professional, vie with each other in displaying their most original small gardens, planted with roses and other flowers. At the JRS booth, knowledgeable members give advice to rose lovers who visit the show on how to grow beautiful roses in their gardens. The spring exhibition of the JRS is also held in one corner of the venue; members bring roses they have grown with tender loving care to enter the cut flower contests or to display in the potted rose corner. This certainly is a show which rose lovers, both beginners and
experts, can fully enjoy, and which provides them with encouragement and ambition to grow healthier, more beautiful roses in their gardens.

One of the features of this show, which surprises those who see it for the first time, and which is looked forward to by those who know it, is the exhibition of miniature roses planted in various shapes of pots and dishes - bonsai roses. Decades old plants with gnarled bases growing from scanty, moss-covered soil produce surprisingly fresh stems on tops, giving a lot of pretty flowers. The exquisite combination of the plant and the container results in a unique work of art with striking effect, and fascinates the viewers with its beauty, born from the co-operation of the power of nature and the skill of an expert rosarian. These bonsai roses are exhibited by Mr. Akira Atomi, a venerable rosarian in Tokyo with versatile skills in growing and displaying roses.

Bonsai has a history of over 700 years, but roses were not regarded as plants appropriate for this horticultural art. It was Mr. Atomi who made an attempt to take up miniature roses as bonsai plants and opened many rose lovers’ eyes to the excellent world of rose bonsai. Today Mr. Atomi gives courses of rose bonsai in Tokyo and other places, and many rose lovers have come to try their hand at creating their own original bonsai pieces. In 2004, 2005 and 2006, he contributed articles to the annuals of the Indian Rose Federation discussing the charm of bonsai, and explaining how to make rose bonsai.

Like many other rose enthusiasts, Mr. Atomi used to be a regular exhibiter, and won many prizes with the impeccable HT flowers he entered in contests. Those who visited rose shows in those days were also impressed by exquisite works of wood carving representing perfect shapes of rose flowers decorating a corner of the exhibition room. Those pieces of wood carving were Mr. Atomi’s works, too. He was also known as an excellent photographer, and his photos of roses have decorated many pages of JRS Rose Calendars. In short, Mr. Atomi is not just an ordinary rose lover who grows roses and enjoys their beautiful flowers for himself, but an artist who can represent their beauty by various means, and open other people’s eyes to the wonder of roses through the pieces he has produced in different genres of art.

You might wonder why an amateur rose lover can engage in different sorts of artistic activities even though their themes are roses. Mr. Atomi used to work for a motion picture company as a stage designer, and designed the settings for several famous movies, including those of Seven Samurai directed by the noted master Akira Kurosawa. His sense of beauty must have been cultivated through his work and have added to the value of the movies he worked on. Even after he retired from his job, he has had opportunities to avail himself of his unique sensitivity in rose related activities with his rose-loving friends.

2012 is a special year for Mr. Atomi. He celebrated his eighty-eighth birthday in March. Japanese regard someone’s eighty-eighth birthday as a day of special celebration, not just because of that person’s longevity, but because the combination of the three Chinese characters representing the number 88 happens to make a different character meaning “rice”, the staple food of the Japanese. On this happy occasion, Mr. Atomi published a collection of his rose photos entitled My Life with Roses, and presented it to those who attended the party held in celebration of his birthday.
There have been many books of rose photos taken by professional photographers, each representing the respective authors’ sense of beauty, and impressing the viewers with the beauty of this wonderful flower. However, Mr. Atomi’s new book is different from any of the other collections of rose photos so far published. As the title of the book suggests, the photos in this collection reflect the versatile activities of a rose lover, who has observed the life of this plant at different stages of its growth, learned different, some unique, ways of enjoying its beauty, and developed the skill to represent what he has observed and learned in the most effective ways. He not only knows the beauty of rose flowers, but has carefully observed and understood the versatile charms of different parts of rose plants while taking care of them in his own garden. It has been particularly fortunate that this person has been blessed with an outstanding skill in photo-taking and recording the beauty he discovered, so other people will also fully appreciate it.

The book consists of ten sections, starting with the record of the life of rose flowers from small buds in early spring till they are fully open; beauty of HT flowers from Japan and other countries; the beauty of single roses; floribundas; sturdiness of rose flowers; the end of the life of flowers in winter, and hips; then unique ways of enjoying roses: miniature rose bonsai; the author’s thought on prickles; and woodcarving of rose flowers. Photos in each section reflect the author’s unusual sensitivity to different aspects of the beauty of the rose, but the last three sections in particular display unique photos not found in any other rose photo albums. Take the section of prickles, for example. Early one morning, after rain, Mr. Atomi saw a drop of water on the end of a prickle reflecting a rose flower and was deeply moved by its beauty. However, the drop of water was blown away by the wind, and the beauty which moved him was lost in a moment. He wanted to record the beauty he thus discovered, and took several photos of drops of water on the ends of prickles, seldom seen in other photo books.

I believe everyone who opens the pages of this photo book will realise what I have mentioned above, and will be moved by different sorts of beauty which this plant displays, and which are represented in photos most effectively. If you would like to receive this photo book, please contact me: aquilasr@h5.dion.ne.jp

Some Conference Lectures

The Climbing Prairie Rose—Rosa setigera
Gregg Lowery (USA)

A most intriguing wild rose from North America, **Rosa setigera** was first observed and described by the French Botanist, André Michaux, from plants found in South Carolina in the late 18th century. Known also as the Bramble Rose, or Blackberry Rose, and named **Rosa rubifolia**, by the later botanist, Robert Brown, it was distributed over a very wide region of North America from the Great
Lakes region southward to Louisiana, Texas and the Carolinas, and through the northeastern states into New England.

*Rosa setigera* found its way into the hands of early American rose breeders, including Robert and William Robert Prince of New York, and Samuel Feast of Maryland, and to later breeders, Rudolf Geschwind and Michael Horvath. The rose held the promise of many valuable qualities as a plant for gardens. Its common name, the Climbing Prairie Rose, explains its initial attraction to breeders who saw an opportunity to breed cold-hardy, disease resistant climbing roses. Its other common name, the Blackberry Rose, alludes to the large, smooth foliage of *Rosa setigera*, which is lustrous and beautiful. Smooth stems with widely spaced prickles, and large flowers in clusters added to the appeal of this fine wild rose. Many have concluded that low fertility with *R. setigera* led to its abandonment as a breeding candidate; Kevan, Eisikowitch, Ambrose and Kemp in an article in the Biological Journal of the Linnean Society in 1990 showed through their research that this rose species is uniquely dioecious, having male and female flowers on separate plants. A new understanding of this characteristic offers breeders hope of returning to the American Prairie Rose to create new rose hybrids adaptable to extreme climates, and particularly to develop more cold-hardy climbing roses. This presentation will explore the history and future of an extraordinary wild rose.

The wild *Rosa setigera*

Long before André Michaux observed and provided a Latin name for the rose it was familiar to Native Americans and to Europeans colonising North America. Its names were many, the Michigan Rose, the Illinois rose, the Kentucky Rose, the Prairie Rose, and, most significantly, the Climbing Prairie Rose. Americans have a fondness for naming plants after their own corner of the country. *Rosa setigera* is distributed over one of the widest territories of any species rose in the world, ranging from southern Canada to Florida, and from Connecticut on the east coast to central Oklahoma in the west. That is an area roughly the size of Europe!

*Rosa setigera* shares its wide distribution with numerous other rose species. What sets this species apart from the crowd of American wild roses are the unique qualities found in the botanical details of the rose. The flowers are born in clusters of 3 to 15 and are distinctly large, sometimes 3 to 4 inches across (7.5cm to 10cm). Foliage is similarly large in scale, and can measure 6 to 8 inches in length. The downy surfaces of the leaves, sometimes lustrous and shiny, sometimes matte and fuzzy, are indented at the veins, creating a distinctive and attractive quilted effect, not unlike that of *Rosa rugosa*. The clusters of bright scarlet, shiny fruits, with their prominent bristles are striking in the cold autumn months when seen against the mass of bright yellow foliage. And, *Rosa setigera* is a notably late blooming species, perhaps the last of the North American species to come to bloom.

Like many American species roses it is a cold hardy rose, surviving the bitter northern winters of USDA zone 3 (-40F/-34C). Yet it also thrives in the mild winters and intense heat and humidity of the Deep South, and is equally beautiful. Most significantly, *R. setigera* is a naturally climbing rose, and its canes
survive not only the extreme cold but the exposure high in the branches of trees where the wind chill factor would desiccate most wild roses.

America’s Wild Climbing Rose

Suckering, scrambling or climbing - which is the case? The common names of *R. setigera* tell us something about the variability, or more accurately about the versatility of this rose. Now most commonly referred to as the ‘Prairie Rose’, in the early 19th century the climbing abilities of this species drew the attention of botanists and nurserymen. It was they who named it the ‘Climbing Prairie Rose’, because it was unique in North American wild roses in that regard. Although imported climbing species like *Rosa multiflora* and *Rosa wichuriana/wichurana* of Japan have naturalised in the Great Plains and in the East, and are today our familiar ‘wild climbing roses’, only one American species is truly climbing, *R. setigera*.

Across its wide territory this rose is found in a range of habitats from the verges of swamps to the edges of hardwood forests, to the small, protected folds in the vast expanse of flat prairie land known as the Great Plains. In this landscape I first encountered the Prairie Rose along the creeks and streams outside a small town in Iowa where I was raised. There it grew at the verges of woodlands, arching and suckering into the open meadows, and tossing its long ropes of stem up into the branches of the trees. Blooms on the ground, blooms in the air; the rose divided its chances for pollination, creating a magical vista of pink blossoms. In pastures devoid of trees it seeks out water and remains an arching shrub, tip rooting in its quest for new ground.

Early American Rose Breeding

Such spectacles of bloom and feats of acrobatics were not wasted on the European-Americans who went in search of wild plants to bring back to their gardens. Shortly after Michaux’s publication of *Rosa setigera* appeared in 1803, the wild rose and many unusual forms began to be grown in gardens, and soon after became the subjects of curiosity by ‘florists’ of the day, those we would today call nurserymen and plant breeders. Early 19th century America supported a thriving industry of horticulturists and plantmen. Plant societies abounded in cities like Charleston, where the first rose hybrid in the new United States, created by an amateur breeder, was introduced, Champneys’ Pink Cluster. This cross between the tender rose from China, Old Blush, and the only slightly hardy old ‘Musk Rose’, was widely admired, and quickly distributed along the Eastern seaboard. No sooner than Champneys’ second seedling was sent to France, this new group of roses was named for a French nursery family, the Noisettes.

These American Noisette roses had great appeal. Their large clusters of small, fragrant, blush-colored flowers and freedom of bloom promised a new era of roses that bloomed repeatedly. In France the hybridisers crossed them with the Tea roses and a new class evolved with larger blooms, a warm range of pastel colors, and the long-caned climbing habit that secured their favor for a century to come. Yet they were tender, challenging to grow in Northern Europe and even more so in North America. Along the coastal belt from Virginia and Maryland to New Jersey and Long Island, they barely survived normal winters. The parent group, the Champneys’ Noisettes fared better. They proved a popular set of roses where winters were not harsh.

Noisettes were grown and sold by William Prince’s nursery on Long Island, and at the Baltimore, Maryland nursery of Samuel Feast and his brother, John. The Feasts grew many roses among them forms of *Rosa setigera*. And it was Feast who first experimented with combining the good qualities of that hardy wild rose and the Champneys’ Noisettes.
In a contribution to ‘The Horticulturalist And Journal of Rural Art and Rural Taste’ in 1850, Mr. V. W. Smith records the following story, apocryphal though it may be: “Mrs. Hannah Levering of Baltimore, Md., having removed to Lancaster, Ohio, forwarded seeds of the wild Prairie Rose to Mr. Samuel Feast, an eminent florist of Baltimore, who planted the same, and after they had vegetated, permitted a few to climb over a bed of Noisette roses.” The suggestion follows that from this experiment the original group of hybrid Setigera roses introduced by Feast was the result.

At the same time, in Washington D.C., an amateur flower breeder, Joshua Pierce followed a similar line of experimentation which lead to a similar, but smaller group of hybrids, some of which were introduced by Samuel Feast. In New York, William Prince may have been creating additional hybrids of Setigera, although none of his introductions appear to have survived for long.

Feast and Pierce

Of some twenty Setigera hybrids introduced by Feast and Pierce, only a tiny handful have survived in commerce or in notable rose collections today. That they have survived at all is remarkable, and to some degree a testament to their cold hardiness.

**Baltimore Belle** is perhaps the most widely grown of these few survivors. It is one of the most prolific and beautiful old roses I grow. The small flowers of cupped form and palest blush colouring perfume the air with their fragrance. They appear in large clusters on a long-caned plant that is ideal for covering an arbor or fence. The old Noisette parentage is very evident in this variety, from the typical Musk Rose clustering of the small blooms, to the pale, apple-green tint to the foliage. It is the rose’s propensity to re-bloom in the autumn in climates with long growing seasons that marks it as a Noisette seedling. I have noted an odd quality about the plant itself, which is a tendency to ‘retire’ its climbing canes early in their life. Each winter about a third of the canes produced in the previous year turn black and die.

**Queen of the Prairies** produces cupped blooms of smoky pink that appear in small clusters along the wiry, thorned branches. The blooms are often too double for my wet spring season, but thankfully come late in the first flush of bloom and last well and long. The colour is often described as pink with white or blush stripes or streaks, and I find this effect most charming.

**Gem of the Prairies** was introduced by a contemporary of Feast and Pierce, Adolphe Burgess in 1859 or 1860. The plant I received from Ashdown Roses some years ago appears to be identical with what I have received as Geschwind’s Orden. It is unclear to me which is the correct name, but this is most definitely a Setigera hybrid, with round flowers of rich rose purple and an outer halo of white that creates a very dazzling effect. There is further evidence of Boursault rose ancestry in this variety as well; the young canes are nearly thornless and reddish in coloring.

It has been disappointing that during the past few decades of old rose gathering from waysides in the U.S. only one Setigera hybrid has been uncovered. Yet it is a rose of such exceptional beauty, that we ought to be very pleased. The rose which I stumbled across at an old house on the North Coast of California, has been found as well at a site in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada mountains. My foundling is named for the town in which I found it, and for the colour and form of the blooms; **Arcata Pink Globe**. It’s doppelgänger from the Gold Country is known as the **Moser House Shed Rose**.
The flowers come in great abundance, late in the season, are medium-sized, and coloured blush pink with a lilac tint. It is sweetly scented.

These early American hybrids of *Rosa setigera* had an enduring impact on American gardeners, even though most of the hybrids themselves have now disappeared. But even more significant was the impact that followed on two Hungarian rose breeders who refined this group of hardy climbing roses, Rudolf Geschwind and Michael Horvath.

Rudolf Geschwind and *Rosa setigera*

The career of Rudolf Geschwind, the Hungarian rose breeder who worked as an amateur, introducing his roses in Central Europe in the 19th century is a story of considerable merit, but far beyond my capacity to fully recount. His works, in German, have not been translated into English, and the details of his intent as a breeder have come to me only second-hand. Erich Unmuth of Austria has studied Geschwind and worked to gather the remaining hybrids of Geschwind into a European collection.

What I am able to offer is the perspective of one who has grown many Geschwind roses, observed their exceptional qualities, and learned to appreciate the phenomenal output of this gifted rosarian. Perhaps the most famous of his roses for contemporary rose lovers is the rose *Eugenie Marlitt*, which has been distributed across the globe and proven to be a rose of great value in a wide range of climates. Geschwind was keenly focused on creating roses that were hardy for Middle Europe, and although most of his roses did not find their way to America, or indeed, even so far as France, their impact was significant.

Geschwind understood the value of *Rosa setigera*, its usefulness in parenting a line of hardy climbers with larger blooms than those found in other hardy ramblers. He worked through several generations in an effort to produce remontant Setigera hybrids. As a scientist he applied modern methods of deliberate crossing of roses, taking the work of Feast and Pierce in America to a new level.

A number of Geschwind’s Setigeras have survived, thanks in large part to their inclusion in the Rosarium Sangerhausen. And, over the past three decades these have gradually made their way to North America. They have proven to be popular among growers of old roses, although many of them are quite new to our gardens. Because Geschwind worked with a large number of species parents, and followed lines of breeding, his Setigera hybrids are varied in appearance. While some display the characteristic signs of the species, such as *Erinnerung an Brod*, others show a predominance of *Rosa multiflora, Rosa canina* and the Alba roses.

*Alpenfee* is a rose of great delicacy and beauty. The cupped and crowded flowers open from fat round buds and smother the plant with bloom.

*Aurelia Liffa*, a hybrid between *R. setigera* and the Hybrid Perpetual *Marie Baumann*, brings the beauty of the HPs into this splendid realm of hardy climbers. The flowers are full, quartered and fragrant, and of a delicate blend of lavender, pink and rose crimson. A notable importation of *Geschwind’s Orden* under this name has caused considerable confusion in the US for some years. More recently the real *Aurelia Liffa* has found its way here thanks to the efforts of Cliff Orent of California who has attempted to bring all of the known surviving hybrids of Geschwind to America.

*Erinnerung an Brod* has seduced many notable rosarians, including Charles Quest-Ritson. In his book ‘Climbing Roses of the World’ he waxes poetical in his description of the deep maroon-violet flowers. What I find fascinating is that this rose appears under the names of many other roses, such
as Souvenir d’Alphonse Lavallée, recently reintroduced from Europe to America. And we have moreover received some distinctive imposters from Europe under the name Erinnering an Brod, including an apricot flowered rose of Setigera appearance.

Himmelsauge, so far as I have been able to observe, is identical to Russelliana. The story might well end there, except that there are qualities in Russelliana that have long puzzled me. The foliage in particular is very much in the style of R. setigera, and not typical of R. multiflora hybrids. Even the most recent plants we have received from Cliff Orent’s importations from Europe I believe to be suspect.

Michael Horvath; Another Hungarian Takes on Rosa setigera

Horvath, who emigrated from Hungary to America in 1890, spent his youth studying forestry, much like Rudolf Geschwind, and it is difficult to imagine that Horvath was not familiar with the elder Hungarian rose breeder, whose roses were in full evidence at Marie-Henriette Grafin Chotek’s great Hungarian rose garden at Dolná Krupá. Horvath ultimately settled in Ohio where he worked extensively with R. setigera, seeking hardy, large-flowered climbers for the harsh winters of the Great
Plains. His work reflects the mind of someone intent on furthering and improving the work of Geschwind.

Unfortunately very little remains of a personal legacy for Horvath, and though he wrote publicly about his methods and goals of breeding, we know almost nothing about the reason for his placing such faith in this unreliable American species rose. The most famous series of roses introduced by Horvath are his Setigera hybrids named for characters in Robert Louis Stevenson's novel ‘Treasure Island’, including Captain Kidd, Jean Lafitte, and Long John Silver. We do believe that the first two roses are still correctly named in commerce, but Long John Silver, according to Dan Russo, an expert on rambling roses in Rhode Island, appears to be incorrectly sold in the USA and elsewhere, and is more likely to be Iceland Queen.

Mrs. F. F. Prentiss which received considerable publicity in the rose press of the 1920s and 1930s, was in fact not ever readily available to the public, although it became an important parent for Horvath. Its semi-double, lilac pink flowers are unforgettable, yet demure and refined.

My own personal favorite hybrid from Michael Horvath is Thor, a rich rose crimson bloom of modest size, but bright promise. It blooms late and then blooms again in our extended bloom season in California, and always catches my attention.

I have often wondered why the hybrids of Rosa setigera seem to have a hold over many lovers of old roses, including myself. They typically bloom just once in the year, and offer little in the way of dramatic color effects, dazzling foliage or alluring perfumes, though many are quite fragrant. Their original selling point, their ability to prosper as climbers for cold climates, is not a factor for me in California. History is always an important reason why we grow roses, and the history of rose breeding, particularly the efforts of those breeders who have sought solutions to significant problems, compels our interest.

So few of the historical hybrids of Rosa setigera have survived that we would be wise to emphasise the importance of preserving them in collections of old roses around the world. These are the living connection to eras of discovery and imagination in the saga of the rose that still have much to teach us and to inspire us.
Odile Masquelier’s Life in her Lyonnais Garden
Odile Masquelier (France)

First, I want to tell you how happy I am to be with you today, to share this wonderful event, the 12th Heritage Rose Conference, with Mr. Warabi, Mayor of the City of Sakura, with the Rose Culture Institute, and its fantastic team of volunteers.

I want to thank you all, but especially Mr. Katsuhiko Maebara, and Dr. Yuki Mikanagi; again. Thank you, and Welcome to La Bonne Maison.

I thought that the best way to show you my life at La Bonne Maison, was to lead you in the garden throughout the year, and to show you what it has become after 45 years of passion, hard work and enthusiasm.

[Editor’s note: the following is a list of the slides telling the story]

2. In January, snow is welcome. Here it coats the hips of *R. virginiana*.


4. Not far away, the Iris unguicularis opens its corolla around the same period, under the protection of the shrubs, facing south.
5. I grow 5 different cultivars; with the frost they stop blooming to start again when the weather gets mild. They are joyful and easy to grow, but sadly, slugs also love them.

6. Galanthus; once they are established, the snowdrops seed themselves freely; illustrated is the double form.

7. Crocus tommasinianus is another bulb easy to naturalise; you can see them peeping through the silver leaves of the Senecio.

8. Three weeks later, under the birches, Betula jaquemontii, purple and pale yellow Helleborus orientalis, garden seedlings, intermingle with the bright lime green of Euphorbia rigida.


10. The weeping willow Salix caprea pendula exhibits its yellow catkins proudly on a carpet of Narcissus.

11. Around the same period the first Prunus, P. yedoensis perpendens, welcomes the early visitors in March.

12. In the Narcissus Alley more than 2500 cultivars (bulbs) follow each other during a month of flowering, creating a light hearted walk under the Maples (Acer sycamore.)

13. When they get too crowded, they are lifted up and divided right after blooming.


15. At the end of the Mixed Border, Prunus subhirtella pendula ‘Mary Mallet’ dances above the Tulipa fosteriana ‘Purissima’.

16. **R. primula**, the Incense Rose, discovered in Persia in 1910, whose foliage exhales a powerful incense fragrance is the first one to bloom in late March. This very special aroma combined with the sweet scent of its delicate flowers is an unforgettable experience.

17. At La Bonne Maison, well protected by a hedge of Thuya ‘Castelwellane Gold’, it is planted in the gravel. Sadly, it is difficult to propagate, so it is scarcely seen in gardens.

18. Not far away the species Tulipa kolpakowskiana share the same luminous primrose yellow.

19. At the bottom of the garden, blooming at the same time as the Judas tree, Cercis siliquastrum, exhibiting the same warm deep pink, we find **R. willmottiae**, dedicated to Miss Willmott, a passionate rosarian.

20. The tiny pink flowers are enhanced by a lovely blue green fern-like foliage.
21. Tulipa backeri ‘Lilac Wonder’ opens not far away.

22. Symphony of green with the spectacular Euphorbia characias wulfenii in full bloom.

23. Shrubs are now on stage, the Deutzia, the Weigela; here Weigela variegata supporting the Clematis ‘Voluceau’, not in bloom yet.

24. Clematis ‘Voluceau’ an old French cultivar, is a very vigorous, prolific bloomer repeating well all the summer through,

25. with an invading Clg. Pompon de Paris just beside it. It is an old climbing Chinese rose (1830) ideal for small gardens, growing 5 metres high, a profuse, very early bloomer.

26. Framed by Clematis montana, R. hugonis is a fountain of gold, with branches arching under the weight of the single fresh yellow blooms.

27. Enhanced by the fern-like foliage, the slightly cupped flowers appreciate dry sunny weather and will then exhale the spicy fragrance of gingerbread. In front is the small deep yellow shrub Genista lydia.

28. There is a plant of Tulipa acuminata in the Secret Garden.

29. Under P. shirotae pendula, the last Prunus, of an exquisite blush pink, Paeonia suffruticosa ‘Isabelle Rivière’ open its deep pink corollas beside Hélène Martin.

30. Not far from ‘Niigata ten nyo no mai’ is the tree peonies border. I started to plant this tree peonies border on arrival in the garden 45 years ago.

31. Overlooking the city of Lyon, is Malus ‘Red Jade’. On the left is Prunus ‘Pink Perfection’ and in the background the deep pink Prunus ‘Kanzan’. The blue Brunnera macrophylla and the yellow Euphorbia polychrome are an easy ground cover, which are happy on my limy soil.

32. Close to the house, on a wall, Clg. Old Blush proudly shows its perfect corollas and is an early bloomer. It will repeat until the frost.


34. By the small pool, ‘Deeping Sarah’, a sculpture of Brian Alabaster, reminds us of our 5 granddaughters.
35. Rediscovered by Roger Philips on the road of Lijiang in Yunnan, the spectacular Lijiang Road Rose, is invading a Strong Prunus ‘Kanzan’.

36. A hybrid of *R. gigantea*, it opens hundreds of warm pink corollas during several weeks. Its soft but intense fragrance is overwhelming and pervades all the garden.

37. ‘Lijiang Rose’

38. Another fascinating sight, **Fortune’s Double Yellow** has clambered up the neighbour’s trees and shows up at 10 metres. Discovered by Robert Fortune in a Mandarin garden in 1845, it combines a fabulous abundance with a very special blend of colours: coppery pink and buff yellow edged carmine.

39. I first saw it in a Californian Garden 20 years ago, but couldn’t find it anywhere.

40. It was wrongly supposed to be very tender; but it just had to be protected by trees and free to climb.

41. It is also an early bloomer.

42. A Korde’s hybrid of *R. spinosissima*, **Frülingsgold**, is a very hardy and early flowering shrub; it has never been pruned at La Bonne Maison, but simply cleaned.

43. Located on a bank, it is surrounded by the slightly invasive *R. foetida*, and **Double Persian Yellow**.

44. Just behind them, Ceanothus ‘Concha’ opens its deep blue flowers, and is the bees’ favourite.

45. Another Ceanothus, the soft blue C. ‘Blue Mound’ is underplanted with *Iris tectorum*. These irises seed themselves with profusion, are very easy to maintain, with healthy foliage until autumn.

46. Spreading on the next bank, the Rugosa hybrid **Max Graf** intermingles with three Clematis. In the background are **Cornelia** and **Albéric Barbier**.

47. In bloom before the rose, here is Cl. ‘Ramona’. It will repeat at the end of the summer.

48. The lush **Max Graf** spreads out on a carpet of *Helianthemum*,

49. where he will meet up with Clematis ‘Hagley Hybrid’.

50. There is another **Ramona** but a rose this time, a hybrid of *R. laevigata*, has reached the top of a very old pear tree, beside the Iris Border.

51 and 52. **Ramona** has lush, persistent foliage.

53. As the garden slopes down, a wall with 4 standard wisterias, is looked after by a terracota pair of Lynx. We bought these lynx on one of our
first visits to Tuscany, in the small City of Impruneta, dedicated to terra cotta artifacts for centuries.

54. Under the blue Wisteria watching the City.

55. Meanwhile, the border of blue and pink Iris germanica is at its peak.

56. Iris are mixed with Papaver orientalis carnea. They are garden seedlings and sometimes match perfectly each other.

57. Herbaceous peonies, planted on arrival in the garden 45 years ago.

58. High walls are a special feature, on this hill. Here, well protected on a very old wall, Belle Portugaise reveals its elegant pointed buds and soft pink blooms.

59. Belle Portugaise 1903.

60. One of the best Tea Noisettes born in Lyon, Rêve d’Or, is hardy, and repeats well until the frost.

61. Rêve d’Or (Claude Ducher 1869).

62. William Allen Richardson, a seedling of Rêve d’Or, a vigorous and profuse bloomer is seen here overlooking Euphorbia, Artemisia, and Senecio.

63. William Allen Richardson is dedicated to an American Rosarian from Charleston, USA.

64. Creeping on the House with the Ampelopsis, Mme Grégoire Stachelin is a once flowering Hybrid Tea, with a delicious lemony fragrance.

65. Its pendulous flowers are heightened by the ruffled waves of their petals looking at you.

66. Terracotta roses on the terrace.
67. Invading a blue spruce, the myrrh scented rose, *R. arvensis* ‘Splendens’ has found a good companion to magnify her soft blush pink, as well as a solid support.

68. Clothing the House Keeper’s house, *R. brunonii* ‘La Mortola’, gives a powerful demonstration of what species roses can achieve. In late May her musk fragrance invades all the garden.

69. Overlooking the Secret Garden, *R. lucens erecta* is another robust rambler, which exhales a sweet perfume.

70. Nozomi in her terracotta jar, has been long the emblem of La Bonne Maison.

71. A Danish rose, The Faun on a carpet of golden marjoram, is a non-stop bloomer which stands heat and draught as well as cold. It has a nice rounded habit and shiny, very healthy foliage attracts all the visitors.

72. The Faun is the son of The Fairy and New Dawn, but sadly it has no scent.

73. Again, by the pool with Sarah and Albéric Barbier.

74. Among the Japanese Irises (garden seedlings) the crane is supposed to protect the fish from the Heron.

75. On the first arch of the pergola, the exuberant Clematis viticella ‘Prince Charles’ intermingles with Awakening the double form of New Dawn.

76. This soft and reliable combination will repeat.

77. Another cheerful Clematis enlightens the Noisette rose Mme Alfred Carrière.

78. At the end of May, the main pergola is on stage, here Mrs. F. W. Flight (1906).
79, 80. The famous Constance Spry is trained as a climber with a background of the milky white R. sempervirens ‘Adélaide d’Orléans’.

81. Framing the Fruit Basket, is an old Meilland rose Clair Matin was already there when I arrived in the garden 45 years ago.

82, 83. The sweetly scented Hybrid musk from Kordès Lavender Lassie, supposed to be a shrub, 2m x 2m has clambered up a Tamarix. When dead headed, it is repeating well all the summer through and is very luxuriant beside Cotinus coggyria ‘Royal Purple’.

84. Leisure in the Secret Garden.

85, 86. Two of the most hardy and faithful Clg. Teas are overlooking this high wall: the pure white Mrs Herbert Stevens and the apricot yellow Lady Hillingdon. Both will repeat until the frost, especially Lady Hillingdon (Hicks 1917).

87. In the Yucca Garden, planted on an ancient tennis court, Easlea’s Golden Rambler is mirrored in the birdbath.

88. while, just beside the sweetly scented Rambling Rector blooms happily in semi-shade, framing some Digitalis purpurea alba.

89. Sheltered and enhanced by a blue Cedrus atlantica, R. laevigata spreads itself, insouciant along the branches and is invading the neighbouring cedar.

90. The perfect R. laevigata.

91. June has arrived, in the Mixed Border, Veronica spicata ‘Pink Gobelin’ is a good companion for the tiny campanula, C. rotundifolia,

92. and for Nicotiana ‘Nicki Red’ (all are garden seedlings)


94. Geranium ibericum join campanulas, salvias and veronicas for the Blue Period.
95. The south end of the Mixed Border in June.

96. The whole Mixed Border and the Hedge of ‘Felicia’ seen from the house.

97. Hosta and Hemerocallis are welcome along the main alley, once roses have gone, and July heat trashes the garden.

98. Allium ‘Purple Sensation’ is peeping through Hosta plantaginea ‘Grandiflora’

99. Close by the small, purple Hemerocallis ‘Court Magician’.

100. In July, the garden is closed. Cypresses stand guard at the entrance.

101. While in the Secret Garden, grey and silver plants have succeeded to the early bulbs,

103. as do Cyclamen graecum in the well sheltered Yucca Garden

104. and the Colchicum ‘Autumn Queen’ in the Mixed Border.

105. Hips are showing up everywhere; the huge golden ones of *R. longicuspis bertolonii* are magnified by its glossy persistent leaves.

106. Beside the asters, Euonymus alatus offers his soft but brilliant coppery pink foliage.

107. A chance seedling named **Fontanières** will keep its superb crop until late winter,
108. while the hips of *R. cantabrigiensis* will fall on the ground as soon as they are ripe.

109. In November the Ginkgo biloba, now the highest tree in the garden is dressed in gold while the 2 Cotinus coggygria are turning scarlet.

110. R. rugosa alba, hips are host to a butterfly.

111. The hedge of The Canadian Rose *Thérèse Bugnet* turns coppery pink; later on, the red stems will shine all the winter through.

112. *Sir Cedric Morris* hips showing up among the luxuriant foliage of the Parotia persica.

113. Sophora japonica, in the background Tamarix tetrandra turns coppery yellow.

114. Hips of *R. filipes ‘Kiftsgate’*, will gleam until March as the birds do not appreciate them.

115. *Le Vésuve* a china hybrid from 1825, is still blooming profusely until the frost, as do

116. *Souvenir de La Malmaison*, the best climbing rose in fall,

117. and her sport, *Souvenir de St Anne’s* introduced by Graham Thomas in 1950. Both have the same delicious fruity fragrance.

118. Sophora japonica looks good under frost with the Renaissance Pavilion in the background.

119. *Nozomi* frosted over.

120. The Sophora and *Francis E. Lester* coated with snow.

121. The last image was of the entrance to the ‘Secret Garden’.

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**Fragrances of Species Roses Native to Japan**

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**Introduction**
In Japan, sixteen species of wild roses are seen growing naturally. It is known that they like widely diverse natural circumstances as their habitats. For example, in areas close to the sea, we find *R. rugosa*, *R. luciae*, *R. luciae* f. *glandulifera*; on the banks of rivers, *R. multiflora* var. *adenochaeta*; in grasslands, *R. davurica* var. *alpestris*, *R. bracteata*. On hillsides, we see *R. sambucina*, *R. onoei*, *R. onoei* var. *oligantha*, *R. onoei* var. *hakonensis*, *R. paniculigera*; and in regions of higher altitude or of chilly climate, *R. nipponensis*, *R. acicularis*, *R. fujisanensis*, *R. hirtula*. As rare species found only in limited or specific areas, we can find *R. davurica* var. *alpestris*, *R. nipponensis*, *R. multiflora* var. *adenochaeta*, *R. bracteata*, and *R. hirtula*.

Out of these species roses native to Japan, *R. multiflora*, *R. luciae*, and *R. rugosa* are widely known as roses which have played remarkable roles in the breeding of new cultivars. As to the other species mentioned above however, excepting a limited number of specialists, very few Japanese will be able to view them or give their names correctly. It is the case that most rose lovers in other countries do not even know that such wild roses exist in Japan.

Since ancient days, rose fragrances have been deeply involved in human life as is seen in the use of rose essential oils and perfumes. In recent years, to satisfy demand, breeders of the world have been directing their effort to raising rose varieties with excellent fragrances, and interest in such roses has been growing further.

Most of the studies of rose fragrances have so far been conducted using hybrid tea roses, damask roses, and tea rose varieties. As to the fragrances of wild roses native to Japan, there is a case of an analytical study of scents collected from different parts of their flowers. In that study, scent materials were collected from 51 roses including 12 species roses native to Japan grown on the farm of Chiba University and in some other rose gardens. Rose fragrances collected from different parts of the flowers, i.e. sepals, petals, stamens, and pistils, showed volatile components specific to each part. It also became clear that characteristic constitutions of fragrances can be observed in roses according to the sections they belong to: sect. Synstylae, sect. Rosa, sect. Caninae, etc.

In our research, we analysed the fragrances of all the sixteen wild roses in Japan and have clarified the details of the components of their fragrances. We hope that our study will provide some basic data useful in future research for determining which wild roses can be used as parents in breeding new varieties with excellent fragrances, and for considering the possibility of producing rose perfumes so far unknown, from wild roses native to Japan. We also conducted an analysis of fragrances with a view to clarifying whether or not fragrances of closely related species had some components in common. In order to analyse the fragrances given off from flowers in their natural states, we refrained from using cut flowers, and collected their scents from flowers on plants with their roots in soil.

We also tried to ascertain, by collecting and analysing the scents obtained from roses growing in their natural habitats and from those growing in rose gardens, whether or not different components were to be observed in the scent of the same species depending on their different growth conditions. Since the scents of flowers are known to change according to the time of day, we checked the change in the fragrance of *R. multiflora*, collecting flowers at different times during a day.

**Materials and Methods**

We used the following samples: *R. rugosa* (Fig.1. a. gorgeous, intense, sweet fragrance), *R. acicularis* (Fig.1. b. slight, hardly noticeable scent), *R. nipponensis* (Fig.1. c. slight fruity scent), *R. davurica* var. *alpestris* (Fig.1. d. refreshing, sweet fragrance), *R. multiflora* (Fig.1. e. clove-like spicy fragrance, far-reaching sweet fragrance), *R. multiflora* var. *adenochaeta* (Fig.1. f. clear,
refreshing, sweet fragrance), *R. fujisanensis* (Fig.1. g. faint fragrance reminding us of the smell of wood or earth), *R. onoei* (Fig.1. h. sweet fragrance), *R. onoei* var. *hakonensis* (Fig.1. i. faint, sweet fragrance), *R. onoei* var. *oligantha* (Fig.1. j. faint, refreshing scent), *R. paniculigera* (Fig.1. k. faint scent reminding us of the smell of conifers), *R. sambucina* (Fig.1. l. fragrance intensely sweet and also fruity), *R. luciae* (Fig.1. m. faint, hardly noticeable scent), *R. luciae* f. *glandulifera* (Fig.1. n. faint, hardly noticeable scent), *R. bracteata* (Fig.1. o. sour-sweet scent reminding us of that of Japanese plum blossoms), *R. hirtula* (Fig.1. p. faint, slightly spicy and woody scent) For the information on where and how the fragrance of each species was collected, see Fig.2 and Table1.

**Collection of volatile ingredients**

The absorbent (twister, 100% polydimethylsiloxane, Gerstel Inc.) was used for collecting fragrance components. The collection was made in the morning, and so long as the schedule allowed, when the weather was fine. In each habitat, we selected fresh flowers, placed two clips on a petal, and with them fixed two twisters so they would not touch the anthers and the petals. Then we covered the whole flower with a transparent wrapper, and let the twisters absorb the fragrance for one hour. When collection work was finished, the sample was stored in a tightly closed container until the analysis was made. We followed the same process in collecting fragrances in rose gardens.

**GC-MS analysis**

Fragrance analyses were performed by thermal desorption gas chromatographymass spectrometry (GC-MS) using the thermal desorption system 2 (TDS2, Gerstel Inc.) coupled to the GC-MS system (Agilent Technologies). The thermal desorption conditions were heating from 20ºC to 200ºC at 30ºC-min-1, holding for 5 min at 200ºC, and cryofocussing at -150ºC in the cooled injection system (CIS, Gerstel Inc.). Following tube desorption, the CIS was heated to 250ºC at a rate of 12ºC-s-1 in splitless mode to transfer the analytes to the GC column. The GC was equipped with a splitless injector and a DB-WAX capillary column (60 m length, 0.25 mm i.d., and 0.25 µm film thickness). The temperature programme of the column oven was set to 50ºC, 2ºC-min-1 up to 230ºC. The interface and ion source temperatures were 250ºC, 230ºC, respectively. Helium was used as the carrier gas. The electron potential was set to EI 70 eV. Compounds were identified with the NIST 02 library search algorithm provided with the GC-MS software.

**Results and Discussion**

The emission levels of volatiles in the sixteen wild roses native to Japan were analysed by GC-MS. The main components of fragrances emitted from seven highly fragrant roses were as follows: citronellol (13.2%), geraniol (8.5%), nerol (4.2%) and 2-phenylethanol (57.7%) in *R. rugosa*; citronellol (19.3%), geraniol (33.2%), nerol (12.4%) and 2-phenylethanol (16.4%) in *R. davurica* var. *alpestris*; eugenol (16.1%), geraniol (2.3%), geranyl acetate (8.7%), 2-phenylethanol (34.7%) and 2-phenylethyl acetate (7.8%) in *R. multiflora*; farnesol (8.3%), 2-phenylethanol (72.7%) and 2-phenyethyl acetate (2.4%) in *R. multiflora* var. *adenochaeta*; cis-3-hexenyl acetate (4.2%) and 2-phenylethanol (87.6 % ) in *R. onoei*; phenylacetaldehyde (49.6 % ), 2-phenylethanol (28.2%) and eugenol (5.4%) in *R. sambucina*; benzyl acetate (54.9%) and benzyl alcohol (10.4%) in *R. bracteata* (Table 2). Among these components, benzyl acetate, citronellol, geraniol, nerol, 2-phenylethanol and 2-phenylethyl acetate are considered to be the compounds responsible for producing the strong sweet fragrances of these roses. On the other hand, the fragrances which the nine roses below give off were not so intense. They lacked highly fragrant components, and the amounts of the volatiles these roses emit were low: *R. acicularis, R. nipponensis, R. fujisanensis, R. onoei* var. *hakonensis, R. onoei* var. *oligantha, R. paniculigera, R. luciae, R. luciae* f. *glandulifera* and *R. hirtula*,
Since *R. rugosa* and *R. davurica* var. *alpestris* were similar to damask rose in their fragrance compositions (Table 2), we classified them into the Damask-like group. However, the qualities of the fragrances of these three roses were felt to be different. While damask rose emitted an elegant scent with intense sweetness combined with what might be described as transparent gorgeousness, *R. rugosa* gave off a fragrance which impressed us simply as gorgeous, intense, and sweet. And *R. davurica* var. *alpestris* gave off a refreshing, sweet fragrance. This difference might be attributed to the different ratios of the main components in their fragrances, and to the effects of the other components contained in small amounts.

The main component of the fragrances of the following three roses: *R. multiflora*, *R. multiflora* var. *adenochaeta*, and *R. onoei*, was 2-phenylethanol, which we consider is responsible for their sweet fragrances. We classified these roses into one “Multiflora-like group”.

Our analysis had revealed that eugenol is contained in the fragrance of *R. multiflora*. Eugenol adds the spicy note to the fragrance of *R. multiflora*, while many other components contribute to the deep and sophisticated feel to it. On the other hand, no eugenol had been detected among the fragrance components of *R. multiflora* var. *adenochaeta*. Most of these components were those which do not contribute to the formation of intense fragrances. This is the reason why this rose gives off a sweet but faint fragrance. Thus it has turned out that roses closely related from a taxonomic viewpoint can sometimes have different fragrance compositions. We have further ascertained that the *R. moschata*, which has been used in producing perfumes in some countries in the Middle East, showed a close similarity to *R. multiflora* in that its fragrance had eugenol as well as 2-phenylethanol among its main components (Table 2).

We classed *R. sambucina* and *R. bracteata* under the Unique group since their fragrances were found to contain some components rarely found in other roses, though they may be found in the flowers of other plants. The main component of the fragrance of *R. sambucina* was phenylacetaldehyde (49.6%), while that of *R. bracteata* was benzyl acetate (54.9%). Phenylacetaldehyde, the main component of the *R. sambucina*’s fragrance, was a precursor of 2-phenylethanol (Fig.3)[11] and was rarely found among the components of rose fragrances. It was not detected in the fragrances of the other roses we analysed (Table 2). It is presumed that the work of the reductase is not so active in *R. sambucina* as in other roses in the reactivity changing of phenylacetaldehyde into 2-phenylethanol. Benzyl acetate, the main component of *R. bracteata*’s fragrance, is generated from benzyl alcohol (Fig.3)[12, 13], contained in the fragrances of *R. rugosa* and *R. multiflora* var. *adenochaeta*. While the fragrances of some other roses have been found to contain a small amount of benzyl acetate[14], it was not a main component in any of them. Since the two roses in this group possess unique fragrances not detected in any other roses, they are expected to serve as useful sources of new perfumes. We have also detected 4-vinylanisol[15] and 4-vinylphenol in the faint fragrance of *R. hirtula*. These two substances are known to be unique components of the Myrrh fragrance in some roses[16]. Similar components have been found in the fragrance of *R. arvensis* (Table 3).

In an attempt to ascertain whether or not plants of the same species growing in different habitats may reveal different fragrance compositions, we made a comparative study of the fragrances obtained from *R. multiflora* plants in the habitats in Kisarazu, in Inba Pond area, and in Akita, and those from *R. rugosa* plants in their habitats in Niigata and in Hokkaido (Table 4). The result was that there was hardly any difference in the substances composing their fragrances, though some slight difference was found in their ratios. We also made the same comparative study on the plants of *R. multiflora*, *R. multiflora* var. *adenochaeta*, and of *R. rugosa* growing in their natural habitats and those growing in rose gardens (Table 4). Again there was hardly any difference detected in the main components of their fragrances, even though there were cases in which some less important
components were found in some plants but not in some from other places, or the ratios of the components slightly differed from each other. We can safely conclude that there is no significant difference in the composition ratio of the fragrance of a rose species, even if the samples were taken from plants growing in different localities.

We also tried to ascertain the change in fragrances according to the time of day. We analysed the fragrances of *R. multiflora* collected at different times of day (Fig.4). From the olfactory point of view, it was felt that the fragrance weakened as time passed. Among the main components of its fragrance – eugenol, geraniol, geranyl acetate, 2-phenylethanol – geraniol and geranyl acetate were lost toward the evening, but the ratio of 2-phenylethanol stayed the same, and as for eugenol, its ratio even tended to increase. It was supposed that eugenol largely contributed to the quality of the fragrance this rose emitted in the evening (Table 5). Actually we had an impression that the diffusive quality we felt in the morning in the fragrance of this species was lost in the evening. Since the quality of a fragrance changes with the passage of time, it is important to fix a time of day in collecting materials for comparative studies of fragrances.

We believe the results of our research will help rose breeders to raise new varieties with excellent fragrances, and will also be utilised in developing new rose perfumes. We would like to expand the realm of our analytical studies to, and take up the fragrances of, wild roses native to other countries of the world.

**Acknowledgements**

We extend our sincere gratitude to the following people for their co-operation in collecting rose fragrances: Mr. Daisuke Matsue [Hakone Botanical Garden of Wetlands], Dr. Hikaru Iwata [Akitakada City, Yamaguchi Pref.], Mr. Hiroshi Obara [Yakushima Nature Activity Center], Mrs. Hotori Indo [Taragi Town, Kumamoto Pref.], Mrs. Fusako Yonehara [Monbetsu City, Hokkaido], Mr. Iori Muroi [Shimogo Town Board of Education, Fukushima Pref.], Mrs. Kaori Ogawa [Hitoyoshi Mori-no-Hall], Mrs. Mayumi Kamata [Kimitsu City, Chiba Pref.], Mrs. Sachiko Iwasaki [Tajimi City, Gifu Pref.], Mrs. Takako Asami [Kani City, Gifu Pref.], Mr. Toru Takeuchi [Odate Municipal Museum], Mr. Ushiomaru Soga [Ishigaki Island Uminomono-Yamanomono]; and to Mr. Akira Ogawa for helping us to translate the Japanese text, to Mrs. Yoko Obigane for amending images, and to Mr. Koji Yoshioka and Mr. Shinya Yamaguchi for supplying pictures used in the presentation at the conference.

**References**

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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-Tridecanone</td>
<td>12.8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8,4,4′-Trimethoxy allylbenzene</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undecanal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undecanol</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-Vinylanisol</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-Vinylphenol</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Normal hydrocarbons (C17~C26)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others ( Sesquiterpen hydrocarbons)</td>
<td>35.9 0.6 38.6</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>10.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others ( Sesquiterpen alcohols)</td>
<td>30.0 0.6 37</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unknown</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>12.9</td>
<td>20.0</td>
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Table 4. Comparison of composition of volatile components on the plants of
*R. multiflora*, *R. multiflora* var. *adenochaeta* and *R. rugosa* growing in
their natural habitats, the City of Sakura Rose Garden (Kusabue-no-oka)
and Hamadera Park Rose Garden (area%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fragrance component</th>
<th>R. multiflora</th>
<th>R. multiflora var. adenochaeta</th>
<th>R. rugosa</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Benzaldehyde</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benzyl acetate</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benzyl alcohol</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>δ-Caryophyllene</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caryophyllene oxide</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citral ( Nerol )</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citral ( Geranial )</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citronellol</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citronelly acetate</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decanal</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dihydrop-δ-ionone</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dihydrot-δ-ionone</td>
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<td>0.4</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
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<td>Dihydrosanone</td>
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<td>α-Dimethoxy-α-allylphenol</td>
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<td>--</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dodecanol</td>
<td>--</td>
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<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eugenol</td>
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<td>0.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Farnesene</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farnelol</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farnesyl acetate</td>
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<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.2</td>
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<td>Geranial</td>
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<td>0.1</td>
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<td>Geranyl acetate</td>
<td>0.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geranyl acetoacetone</td>
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<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hexadecanal</td>
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<td>Hexadecanol</td>
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<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cis-3-Hexenol</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>trans-3-Hexenol</td>
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<tr>
<td>δ-Ionone</td>
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<td>0.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Limonene</td>
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<tr>
<td>Linalool</td>
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<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methyl eugenol</td>
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<td>0.6</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methyl geranate</td>
<td>--</td>
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<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methyl heptanoate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Myrcene</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nerol</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neryl acetate</td>
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<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonanal</td>
<td>--</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitro-Permene</td>
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<tr>
<td>2-Pentadecane</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phenylacetaldihyde</td>
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<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phenylthahanol</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phenylethyl acetate</td>
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<td>0.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>α-Pinene</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>2-Methyl-5-pentenol</td>
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<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-Methyl-3-butenenol</td>
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<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>α-Terpine</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terpineol</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terpineol</td>
<td>--</td>
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<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tridecanol</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trimethylamine</td>
<td>--</td>
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<tr>
<td>Undecanol</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undecanol</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-Vinylacetol</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-Vinylphenol</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Normal hydrocarbons (C17-C25)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others (3-methylpentane)</td>
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<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others (3-methylpentane)</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unknown</td>
<td>48.5</td>
<td>28.8</td>
<td>2.8</td>
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</table>

51
Table 6. The percentage of the main fragrance components of *R. multiflora* at different times of a day (area%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fragrance component</th>
<th>morning</th>
<th>afternoon</th>
<th>evening</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eugenol</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>16.2</td>
<td>43.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geraniol</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geranyl acetate</td>
<td>14.6</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-Phenylethanol</td>
<td>40.3</td>
<td>38.1</td>
<td>38.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fig. 1. Wild roses in Japan.
Fig. 2. Localities of the natural habitats we visited to collect volatile compounds of wild roses. The red spots with number 1 to 24 (see Table 1) indicate the localities of the natural habitats we visited.

Fig. 3. Proposed biosynthetic pathway of unique scent compounds. (a) *R. sambucina*, (b) *R. bracteata*. 

Fig. 3. Proposed biosynthetic pathway of unique scent compounds. (a) *R. sambucina*, (b) *R. bracteata*. 

(a) Phenylacetaldehyde

(b) Benzyl alcohol
Sustainable Rose Growing--- An Indian Dream
Viru Viraraghavan (India)

The subject of dreams has been in the forefront of Japanese imagination ever since the world renowned series of movies, one of which was called ‘Dreams’ was launched by the award winning film director Akira Kurosawa. Perhaps it is this influence which led to my good friend Katsuhiko Maebara naming that part of the Sakura Rose Garden, which is planted with some of my roses as ‘Dreams of India Garden’. It is a compliment that I greatly cherish.

Rose breeders are indeed dreamers, a fact recognized by that doyen of American rose breeders, H.C. Swim. As you know, Swim’s roses regularly won the All American Rose Selections in the heyday of the Hybrid Teas. Pragmatic as he was, Swim titled his book on rose breeding ‘Roses – From Dreams to Reality’.

Striking a personal note, I have always been fascinated by roses which are different. India’s well known rose breeder, Dr. B. P. Pal, has written about me, half in jest, that while other hybridisers preferred a safer ‘bird in hand’ policy, I appeared to have agreed with Bret Harte, who wrote ‘a bird in the hand is a certainty, but a bird in the bush may sing’! But don’t be afraid, I am not going to sing about my roses but merely narrate where my dreams of roses have led me so far.

I began rose breeding in the early 1960’s with the inspiration provided by Mr. B. S. Bhatcharji who emphasised the need to have a separate line of breeding for warm climates...in other words, produce sustainable roses. So however eccentric the choice of objective the roses which emerged had to be easy to grow.

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**Fig.4.** The volumes of the volatile components in *R. multiflora* at different times of a day.
From the outset the emphasis was on roses which are not martyrs to fungus problems requiring spraying with modern fungicides, many of which are environmentally hazardous. The seedlings raised under my programme are sprayed only with a mixture of potassium bicarbonate and neem oil, to control disease, adapting the pioneering work done in the Montreal Botanic Garden. Even this environment friendly spray schedule is not rigidly followed, but only occasional sprays given depending on weather conditions.

Inspired by Mr. Bhatcharji, one of my earliest dreams was to produce Tea roses in brighter colors. Several crosses were made with the yellow Tea, *Etoile de Lyon*, and an unknown pink Tea, crossing them into modern Hybrid Teas, and one, the pink Tea x *Samba*, produced my first rose, named, rather aptly I feel, *First Offering*, a bushy plant with lovely red flowers of the Tea rose persuasion, but sadly now lost. I remember two other seedlings, a dazzling yellow variety from the pink Tea into the le Grice floribunda, *Gold Gleam*, and a salmon from *Étoile de Lyon* x *Mischief* – these too were lost when I wakened from rose reveries to the realities of career in Government service, which entail constant transfers from one place to another.

Somewhat later I started an obsession, I must confess, with the so-called 'hand-painted' roses, originated by Sam McGredy. Having been always very fond of bicour roses, I was captivated by his first hand-painted floribunda, *Picasso*, where the colors of red and white are mixed at random. The dream was to produce a Hybrid Tea with the same mix of colors. It so happened that my very first effort resulted in success. *Picasso* crossed into the red and white *Inge Horstman* produced *Priyatama*, named for Girija. ‘*Priyatama’* means ‘most beloved’ in Sanskrit. Many other hand-painted roses followed.

I have been attracted to roses in unusual colours, so it comes as no surprise that my attention was drawn to what are optimistically called ‘blue roses’. Working with the heritage Geschwind rose, *Gruss en Teplitz*, which does well in India, brought *Vanamali*, which grows in the Sakura garden. Many others followed including some in the closely related brownish colors, like *Coffee Country*.

The great rose breeder, Edward le Grice, was an inspiration and his roses, *Lilac Charm*, *Amberlight* and *Tom Brown*, in shades of brown, and *Ripples*, lilac, as well as the incredible purple, *News*, which owes its colour to the Gallica, *Tuscany*, became part of my breeding line, which is now focused on the purple shades so loved in India.

Graham Stuart Thomas, that great pioneer behind the heritage rose movement, provided the next dream. He had observed, talking of Noisette roses, that if these roses could be created again, and given more color, they would take the world by storm - remarks which apply equally to the Teas and
Chinas. Wilhelm Kordes of Crimson Glory fame once remarked that the soup ladle can only bring out what is in the soup tureen, stressing the need for fresh genetic input in rose breeding. And a third hint came from E. F. Allen, Scientific Adviser to the R.N.R.S., U.K., who dwelt, in the International Rose Conference in 1976, on the possibilities of raising new roses for warm climates using *R. clinophylla*, the world’s only tropical rose species.

If this mix was not complicated enough, I added a vision of incorporating the beauty of the other parent of the Teas, *R. gigantea*, into the breeding line. The most beautiful of the *Rosa giganteas* is the clone which grows in India’s north east, with flowers yellower and larger than the others from outside India.

Success with *R. clinophylla* was difficult indeed, as it is generally very far removed from even the Tea/Noisette roses, not to speak of modern roses. But ultimately two interesting seedlings emerged – a pink repeat-flowering single rose from the pink Tea, *Mrs. B. R. Cant*, and a larger flowered pale orange and tallow bicolour from the cross of the floribunda, *Little Darling* into a seedling of mine derived from *R. clinophylla* pollinated by the closely related *R. bracteata*. The latter was probably of higher chromosome number unlike the *Mrs. B. R. Cant* seedling which was probably diploid. These two seedlings are in the background of my new range of Hybrid Clinophyllas.

The diploid range received an unexpected boost when crosses were made with the Noisette climber, *Rêve d’Or*, which does well in India. For some unaccounted reason, the seedlings were all very dwarf but quite bushy and I nicknamed them after a leading Indian politician who was so short that some wag referred to him as being below sea level! This series of short seedlings is now being crossed into other Teas to produce the compact new Teas which I propose to call ‘Patio Teas’.

From the other seedling of *R. clinophylla* with *Little Darling* has come a range of shrub roses culminating in the varieties *Silver Dawn*, *Ganges Mist* and most recently, the very fragrant *Pat Henry* named for my good friend who encouraged me by releasing these new roses in the USA. This same rose is called Narender in India, named for the enthusiast who collected the clone of *R. clinophylla* species used in my programme. Interestingly, many of the seedlings in this line are very fragrant.

Work with *R. gigantea* was not neglected though it started a little later because Girija and I had to personally collect the species from the wilds of North east India, very near the border with Burma (Myanmar). This was 1990 and the first flower
appeared in 1994 after which the programme was started. *R. gigantea* was easier to work with than *R. clinophylla*, as its genes figure though somewhat distantly even in modern roses.

Two lines appeared – a diploid line from crosses of the species with *Rêve d’Or*, and a tetraploid line from crosses with the French Hybrid Tea, *Carmosine*.

‘In the search for new roses with *R. gigantea* an unexpected bonus was the appearance of several Tea roses where the close proximity of the *R. gigantea* genes in the parentage resulted in plants with better foliage and petal texture. In this part of the work a seedling of *R. gigantea* into the Polyantha Echo has been very useful as the Polyantha genes paved the way for freedom of flowering.

‘Aussie Sixer’

One of the great connoisseurs of roses once remarked that, as the rose mania intensifies, the rosarian comes to understand that there is nothing as beautiful as the single rose. My new lines have resulted in some elegant singles.

Even the connoisseurs of the heritage rose will admit that whatever the problems of plant habit and foliage, the form of the Hybrid Tea is indeed very beautiful. In warm climates the modern Hybrid Tea bred for cold resistance is virtually a failure. Peter Harkness, while tracing the origin of the Hybrid Tea from the genetic point of view, provided the inspiration for a new kind of Hybrid Tea.

Basically the Hybrid Tea is evolved from the cross of Tea roses with Hybrid Perpetuals. Harkness points out that the Hybrid Perpetual has practically no Chinensis genes in its genetic makeup, except the gene for repeat flowering.

If we want a better Hybrid Tea for warm climates why not substitute the Hybrid Perpetual with another large flowered rose, where the Chinensis genes are more prominent?

Pursuing this dream a new line of Hybrid Teas starting from Alister Clark’s *Lady Mann* was begun. Some progress has been made so far.
Apart from heat resistance the emphasis from the beginning in these new lines was on evergreen foliage based on the simple logic that a rose plant, especially in the tropics and subtropics, should look beautiful even when not in bloom, as roses have to compete with the lush foliage of other warm climate plants. The dream was that the new varieties would fill the existing gap in roses suitable for these areas. In addition efforts are on to produce brighter colours by bringing in the genes of *Fortune's Double Yellow* and some of the brighter coloured miniature roses.

The emphasis on beautiful leaves led me, perhaps inevitably, to that extraordinary species, *R. laevigata*, endowed with such striking foliage. Work with this is in progress, with the Japanese hybrid from *R. laevigata*, 'Laevigata rosea'.

Again, inspired by Japan, and the giant trees of *R. roxburghii* to be found in the mountains, especially near Hakone and Mt. Fuji, I thought of creating roses as big as cherry trees. This is perfectly possible but the first steps are proving very difficult. I hope however to have something in the not too distant future.

The last time I gave a talk in Japan, in 2006, I had composed a haiku, as a tribute to our Japanese hosts. The first line runs: "My dream rose mocks me, 'make me real". And the punch line speaks of only dream roses being real. I leave you to ponder on this.

**Old Roses for Food and Medicine in China**

Zhao Shiwei (China)

My first impression of roses began when I was very young. At that time, there was not enough food for the Chinese people. For children, snacks were rare and totally different from what people have nowadays. One of my rare snacks was a rose. It was a *Rosa multiflora*, usually in spring when the rose bloomed with beautiful white flowers. The rose was at the foot of a hill called "Monkey Hill". The flowers smelled so good that I would breathe deeply and enjoy the sweet fragrance. I couldn’t help picking some flowers and took them home for my mother. The snack was not the flower. The snack was the young shoots of the rose. You had to peel the young shoot and remove the leaves. The young shoots without peels became a special snack. It tastes like a lettuce but it was a little sweet and had flavour. It was not that tasty, but it is a good childhood memory and the taste was unforgettable. However, the fragrance was very pleasant and I never experienced the same smell again after I left home to study and work in the city.

As I grew up and studied horticulture, I knew that the rose was used as food from very early times. Chinese Medicine has a very long history. It is still vigorous and plays a great role in healing diseases. Herbs used in Chinese Medicine include roses: *Rosa chinensis, rugosa, roxburghii, banksiae, laevigata* and other species are important.
I’d like to introduce three roses which are used as food, but not including the tasty *Rosa multiflora* I had eaten as a boy. Let me take *Rosa roxbourghii* and *R. laevigata* as examples and introduce you to the use of roses in China.

*Rosa roxbourghii*

*Rosa roxbourghii* - the sweet chestnut rose is of high medicinal value. The parts with medicinal value include the flower, leaf, fruit and the seed, with the effect of stimulating appetite, helping digestion and increasing strength.

The fruit can be processed into a healthy food. The mature fruit is fleshy and tastes sweet and sour. It contains a rich amount of sugar, vitamin and carotene. The Vitamin C content is 841.58-3541.13 mg/100g fresh fruits, which is the highest among many fruits, and almost 50 times more than the orange and 10 times more than the kiwifruit. So it is undoubtedly the “King of Vitamin-C”. The fruit can be processed into juice, jam, fruit wine, pickled fruit, candy and sweets.

The history of using the fruit of *R. roxbourghii* to brew wine can be dated back to 1833 at the 13th year of the Daoguang era, Qing Dynasty. Songliang Wu wrote a poem “back to settle in West Guizhou”, which said: “drunken with the newly-brewed roxbourghii wine, eating-full with fragrant rice”. In “Si Nan Fu Xu Zhi” written in 1840, is written: ‘the sweet chestnut rose was wild, the fruit small and thorny. The fruits can be brewed into wine”.

Bijie and Liupanshui in Guizhou have rich resources of the sweet chestnut rose. In these areas, local people have a long history of using it as food or medicine. Some people eat it as fruit. Some people use it to brew wine. Every year in August and September, the fresh or dried fruits are sold here and there in the streets.

In Liangshan, Sichuan, local people use the fruit to cook food. The most famous place for sweet chestnut rose production is in Longli, Guizhou. It is called the town of the sweet chestnut rose.

*Rosa laevigata*

*Rosa laevigata* is called the Cherokee Rose. The use of Cherokee Rose fruits was described in the book “Jiu Huang Ben Cao” (Herbs for Famine Time) in 1406 AD. It said: there were mainly 3 different types of Cherokee Roses, i.e. the Shuzhou type, the Yizhou type and the Quanzhou type which are classified according to the place of its origin.
*R. laevigata* was first described in Lei Gong Pao Zhi Lun. The Ben Cao Tu Jing said: Cherokee Rose is found in many southern and central provinces, and the rich in Jiangxi, Jiannan and Southern provinces. The plants grow wild, similar to climbing roses, thorny, blooming with white flowers in April (lunar calendar) and fruiting in the summer. The fruit is thorny and yellowish, pear-like. Fruit is collected in November and December.

The pear-shaped fruit is up to 4cm long, but there is only a thin layer of flesh surrounding the many seeds. Sugar can be extracted from the fruit, but it is also used to ferment rose wine.

The seed, leaf, fruit, root and the flowers are all of medicinal value. The seeds are a good source of vitamin E. They can be ground and mixed with flour or added to other foods as a supplement. But you have to remove the seed hairs before use.

The fruit, root and leaves are emmenagogue and depurative. They are used to stabilise the kidneys. A decoction is used in the treatment of chronic dysentery, urinary tract infections, wet dreams, prolapse of the uterus, menstrual irregularities and traumatic injuries. The root bark is astringent and used in the treatment of diarrhoea and menorrhagia. The dried fruits are antibacterial, anticholesterolomic, astringent, carminative, diuretic and stomachic. They are used internally in the treatment of urinary dysfunction, infertility, seminal emissions, urorrhoea, leucorrhoea and chronic diarrhoea.

**Awards**
Katsuhiko Maebara

After graduating from the Horticultural Dept of Chiba University, Mr Maebara worked for Keisei Rose Nursery, where he, under the direction of the late Mr Seizo Suzuki, one of Japan’s eminent rose breeders and researchers, accumulated knowledge essential to the growing and management of rose gardens. Following Mr Suzuki’s retirement, Mr Maebara was entrusted with many of the important species and rare heritage roses from his personal collection. These roses were then planted in his private garden in Sakura City. With the assistance of other volunteer Rosarians - Rose Garden Alba, was opened to the public in 1996.

Until then, most Japanese rose lovers’ interest was directed to modern roses. Due to little space being available to accommodate the increasing number of roses (both imported and local) a new garden, offered by the City of Sakura was established in Kusabue-no-Oka – a public park – and following the transfer of all roses at Rose Garden Alba to the new site, was opened to the public in 2006. This ‘City of Sakura Rose Garden’ was visited by registrants on the Post Tour following the World Rose Convention in Osaka 2006. Volunteers manage and maintain the garden in its entirety.

In addition to providing ongoing supervision of the Garden, Mr Maebara opened a library with a collection of rose books and other rose related document donated by Mr and Mrs Suzuki. Due to his enthusiasm and supported by the Japan Rose Society, a committee was established and approval was obtained to host the WFRS 12th International Heritage Rose Convention in Sakura during 2011, however due to the tragic events of that year, the Conference was rescheduled for May/June 2012. As Chairman of the Organising Committee he has been totally committed to the detailed planning and preparation, which included securing support from the City of Sakura and its citizens.

Katsuhiko Maebara is a worthy recipient of the WFRS Silver Commemorative Medallion.

Mr. Kazuo Warabi, Mayor of Sakura City

Mr. Warabi has a profound knowledge of plants and flowers, and since becoming Mayor, has implemented a policy of planting flowers throughout the City. His enthusiasm over the past 5 years has seen him committed to the expansion and improvement of the Kusabue-no-Oka rose garden. As a result, this rose garden, which was opened as a treasure trove of important heritage roses, and was noted for the number of different varieties, has further developed into a new type of garden featuring a collection of rare China roses and heat-resistant varieties. Mr. Warabi has also turned his efforts to the improvement of the infrastructure of the rose garden, removing all the electric light poles and laying power lines underground in an attempt to provide natural settings for the landscape of the garden. In addition, he has not forgotten to serve the convenience of visitors, and opened a café-restaurant in the garden.

When it turned out that the city's financial conditions were tight, and it could not afford to provide substantial assistance to the conference, he appealed to business corporations in the
city for financial support to the conference. The Conference Organisers are very grateful to
the Mayor for his effort. In 2009, a new rose garden entitled the Entian Rose Park was
opened in Taicang City, Jiangsu Province China. This park was constructed in
commemoration of the centenary of the birth of the late Mrs. Jiang Entian, the “Mother of
Roses in China”. She was born in this city, and worked hard to promote rose planting in
Beijing, Tianjin and other cities, in accordance with the then Prime Minister Zhou Enlai’s hope
to create a warm and cheerful atmosphere in cities in China after the revolution.

In respect for each other’s history, similar in many ways, the rose gardens in Taicang and in
Sakura concluded a friendship agreement. Sakura City presented 70 rose plants to Taicang,
al so raised by Mr. Suzuki, to be planted in Entian Rose Park. A monument was also erected
there to commemorate this friendship agreement, and Mr. Warabi was invited to the opening
ceremony of this park held on April the 27th, 2009.

As the Mayor of the host city he provided invaluable assistance to the preparations for the
WFRS 12th International Heritage Rose Conference.

Mr. Kazuo Warabi fully deserves the honour of a WFRS Commemorative Silver Medallion.

Yuki Mikanagi

Known as one of Japan’s leading authority on species roses, Dr Mikanagi is the curator of
the herbarium of the Natural History Museum and Institute in Chiba. Her interests include
focusing on the occurrence of orange pigments in roses. As a member of the board of
trustees of the Rose Culture Institute, she took part in setting up the database of the
Kusabue-no-Oka Rose Garden and in its rose identification work.

As a member of the Organising Committee of the WFRS 12th International Heritage Rose
Conference in Sakura, Yuki has worked with enthusiasm and went to great lengths to ensure
the success of the Conference, in spite of the many difficulties encountered after the
earthquake and tsunami.

She is also an important member of the Japanese Rose Society and as such is a regular
participant in WFRS activities.

Yuki Mikanagi is a worthy recipient the WFRS Bronze Commemorative Medallion.

New Trial Garden

A New International Rose Trials
Gérald Meylan, Switzerland

The 1st International Rose Trials of Monaco took place on 5th May 2012 under the chairmanship of
Mr Yves G. Piaget. On this occasion 67 varieties of roses in commerce for not more than 5 years
were viewed by the international judging panel. The trial roses were presented by 18 rose breeders
from 6 different countries – France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Switzerland and USA.
10 plants of each variety had been cultivated in containers over several months and were in full bloom on the day of the judging. They were divided into 4 categories – hybrid tea, floribunda, ground cover and shrub. The panel particularly noted the excellent resistance to disease of the majority of the varieties on show, as well as several varieties with a very pronounced fragrance.

The international panel awarded the PIAGET ROSE Trophy to the variety ASTRONOMIA® MEIguimov from the House of Meilland, France. The rose breeder, Laperrière, France received the fragrance cup and prize of the City Council of Monaco for its variety JET SET® LAPra. In addition, 2 gold and 3 silver medals and 4 certificates of merit were awarded.
South Africa has lost a national treasure. Esther Geldenhuys died at the age of 88 on 28 June, 2012 after a long life, many years of which were spent as a prominent rose personality in South Africa. She rose through the ranks from a farmer’s daughter not particularly interested in gardening to the august position of Honorary Life President of the Federation of Rose Societies of South Africa (ROSA); a position she shared with Syd Cywes.

Esther Geldenhuys matriculated at the age of 16 and thereafter attained an M.A degree in English and an H.E.D. diploma (cum laude), both from the University of Pretoria. She laughingly noted that her tertiary education was interspersed with ‘serious jollification’. After teaching for two years, she married a Kroonstad farmer – a move which landed her in the midst of a very enthusiastic and active Horticultural Society, but where roses were not high on the gardening agenda. This changed when Esther began attending the huge flower shows and was soon captivated by the enormous rose exhibits. She met the major rose personalities of the day who co-opted her as the Free State representative of the newly formed Rose Society of South Africa. A request to start a rose society in her home province proved difficult given the dearth of rose plants – all were bare root at the time.

A move to a new farm and her very supportive husband led to a planting of some 300 roses. Her fate was sealed seven years later when Esther and a group of friends visited Jan Roeloff’s Rose Garden near Krugersdorp. The vision of fields of roses transformed her life and she started the Free State Rose Society together with her friends, on the way home! During her lifetime Esther formed 10 rose societies and eventually became the President of ROSA in 1986, 1996 and again in 2000 – an honour not given to many.

Awards and high office continued to be heaped on Esther: The prestigious Zoe Gilbert Award (1990); two terms as Vice President of the World Federation of Rose Societies for Africa and the Near East; Editor of the World Rose News also for a two year term. As she said that was ‘really something for an Afrikaans-speaking Free Stater’. This led to the Gold Pin Award at the World Rose Convention in Dublin (1998) followed by special citations from...
the Free State Rose Society and then from the American Rose Society. In all she gave over 200 lectures both nationally and internationally – an activity she thoroughly enjoyed as it led to many long-lasting friendships. Esther Geldenhuys received more accolades for her beautiful and informative book *Roses*, published both in English and Afrikaans and such was the demand that it was reprinted a year later.

Her name will forever remain imprinted on the national consciousness through the hugely popular rose named after her by Ludwig Taschner. With its superb shape, beautiful colouring and vigorous growth it is a fitting memorial to an effervescent lady; Esther Geldenhuys - once met, never forgotten.

**Coming Events**

*September 5, 2012, Culture Worthy Roses in the Nordic Countries*

Branch Day September 5, 2012 from 0930 to 1800

This Year is the 25th Jubilee for the Rosarium in Gothenburg.

We focus on the rose by bringing together experts from across the Nordic Countries to discuss and exchange experiences about culture-worthy and hardy roses for the Nordic climate:

- What is our attitude to culture-worthy roses?
- Which roses are hardy in our climate?
- What does it mean to maintain a rose garden entirely organically?

**Participants:**

- Lars-Åke Gustafsson, POM
- Thomas Proll, Kordes Tyskland
- Inger Kullberg, Finska Rosensällskapet
- Helena Verghese Borg, Rosens dag
- Vilhjálmur Lúðvíksson, Isländska rossektionen, ordförande i Nordiska rosensällskapet.

Contact Lisa Brunnström email: lisa.brunnstrom@ponf.goteburg.se
The 16th World Rose Convention  
Sandton, Johannesburg  
OCTOBER 11 – 18, 2012

Calling Photographers - Professional and Amateur:

This is your opportunity to have your rose photographs judged and displayed at the Convention – even if you are not attending.

**THE ENTRY CLASSES ARE:**

Class 1  One rose bloom – bud to half open  
Class 2  One rose bloom  
Class 3  Open bloom – 1 to 3 blooms – stamens must show  
Class 4  One cluster/spray of Iceberg  
Class 5  Mass display of roses in a garden  
Class 6  Arrangement of roses in a bowl  
Class 7  Abstract or impressionist photo of a rose bloom/plant or any portion thereof

**CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES IS 31 AUGUST 2012**

To find out more about the competition and to register your entry, visit:

www.rosafrica2012.co.za

Registration for the Convention is still open. Make sure you register before 31 August as prices increase after this date. The South African Rand exchange rate is very favourable for foreign visitors – take advantage of this unique opportunity!

All information is available on the ROSAFRICA website
The website is scheduled for August. Registrations can be made from August.
The website address is then: [http://europa-rosarium.de](http://europa-rosarium.de) (heritage roses conference)
Thomas Hawel is the contact person email address: Thomas.Hawel@stadt.sangerhausen.de

**Provisional Programme: 19th to 23rd June, 2013.**

**19th:** Arrival and registration.
19.00 Welcoming reception with mayor of the City Sangerhausen - Ralf Poschmann, Bernd Weigel - President of German Rose Society, Mrs. Eilike Vemmer - Manager of Kasseler Roundtable and Thomas Hawel - Director of Europa-Rosarium Sangerhausen in the Greenhouse

**20th:** Opening ceremony with Hans Peter Mühlbach. in the Ulrich church
Lecture no. 1: Thomas Hawel – Europa-Rosarium Sangerhausen – Collecting and Preserving Historical Roses – the concept of a gene bank for Roses
Lecture no. 2: Lars-Åke Gustafsson - Roses from Northern Europe
Lecture no. 3: Guoliang Wang – Early Chinese Roses
Lecture no. 4: Charles Quest-Ritson – Early Known and Lesser Known Rose Breeders

13.30 Lunch in Greenhouse
15.00 guided tours of the rose garden
evening free
20.00 Concert in the Ulrich church

**21st**
Introduction with Hans Peter Mühlbach
Lecture no. 5: Helga Brichet – Rose gardens in Italy
Lecture no. 6: Paul Zimmermann – Historical Roses from America
Lecture no. 7: Patricia Cavallo: Nabonnand Roses
Lecture no. 8: Odile Masquelier – The Lords and Ladies of Roses (after which the roses were named)

13.30 Lunch in Greenhouse
15.00 Garden tours
20:00 Reception with mayor of the City Sangerhausen - Ralf Poschmann

**22nd**
Tour Weimar or Kassel/Wilhelmshöhe

**23nd**
Introduction with Hans Peter Mühlbach
Lecture no. 9: Anne Velle – Moschata-Hybrides
Lecture no. 10: Hella Brumme & Eilike Vemmer – Roses from Pictures in the “Journal des Roses” and the “Deutsche Rosenzeitung” about 1900 for identification of historical varieties

11.00 Presentation of candidates to host 2016 Heritages Roses Conference
Closing ceremony with Hans Peter Mühlbach
12.30 Baptism of a rose created by Ann Velle
13.00 Lunch in Greenhouse
14.00 Buses leave for Stollberg
evening free

24rd Post Tour Dresden sleeping over

Presentation of the Heritage Roses Conference in Sangerhausen
Welcome to the Europa-Rosarium Sangerhausen

The Rosarium in Sangerhausen was founded by the Gesellschaft Deutscher Rosenfreunde (German Rose Society) in 1903. In 2013 you can admire more than 8000 different rose-cultivars and species - a magnificent display of colour and scent. Over the past hundred years rose specialists have managed the difficult task of caring for the Rosarium, of developing and planting it, even in the most challenging times - of 50 years behind the iron curtain. Wild roses, historic roses, roses of the 20th century and modern, recently created roses make up the largest rose-collection in the world.

The German Rose Society is supporting this conference with the help of Eilike Vemmer who is the organiser of the Kassel Round Table Talks. These talks were initiated in 1985 by Hedi and Wernt Grimm and the event has been held every year since then. Rose enthusiasts host the event in a different German town. Participants come together to discuss, for example, the identification and preservation of historical roses.

In 2013, the East German Rose Garden in Forst is celebrating its one hundred year anniversary and for this reason, the German Rose Society Conference will take place there from 13 – 16 June. This Rose Garden is well known way beyond the state borders and ranks as the most important garden in the Lausitz alongside the Pückler Gardens in...
Branitz and Bad Muskau.

The theme for the 2013 Heritage Roses Conference is

“Collecting, identifying and maintaining heritage roses”

The 26th Kassel Round Talks will also be devoting itself to this issue.
The historical Rose Collection of the Europa-Rosarium includes about 1200 old roses.

Excursion programme

Kassel Wilhelmshöhe
The most beautiful mountain park in Europe, with its collection of historical roses is located in Kassel Wilhelmshöhe. Set out as a princely park of 240 ha, it has altered its appearance over the centuries as styles and tastes have changed. From a cloister park (1143-1539) Landgraf Moritz created a hunting lodge with a baroque park. Roses are not alone here. Numerous indigenous and exotic bushes and plants enhance the park.

Weimar
Weimar was the cultural capital of Europe in 1999 and is known world-wide not just for its famous personalities. Even today you can detect the spirit of classical Germany. Many famous people were at home here: Goethe, Schiller, Herder, Bach, Liszt, Wieland, Cranach, van de Velde and Gropius as founder of the Bauhaus. Museums and exhibitions tell the glory of times past.
Dresden
Dresden inspires as a baroque work of art: with fascinating buildings and art treasures known around the world.

Regional Conference November 13 – December 3
Palmerston North, New Zealand

Hot off the press are the latest details (subject to change) on the WFRS Regional Convention in New Zealand November, 2013. There will be lots to see and do on your visit “down under”

Information is also available on the national website www.nzroses.org.nz or you can e mail Peter Elliott, Convenor on gizmo@inspire.net.nz if you have specific questions.

Preview of the Pre-tour
Starts Wednesday evening November 13 in Auckland with a meet and greet. A full day tour follows on Thursday seeing the sights of the City of Sails and the beautiful Parnell Rose garden before heading south on the Friday to the Waikato & King Country districts for the weekend. Visit two spectacular public rose gardens plus the world famous Waitomo Caves and the glowworm grotto. Also see the Waikato Rose Society spring show, one of the largest in the country, and join their members for dinner overlooking Hamilton Lake. On Sunday attend the Pacific Rose Bowl Trial Awards at the Rogers rose garden, a WFRS garden of Excellence. On Monday the tour proceeds to Rotorua, famous for its geysers and rich in Maori folklore. After the 3 day stay in Rotorua and next port of call will be Taupo, noted for its great lake and mountain vistas. The tour arrives in Manawatu province on Friday November 22 in time for the start of the convention.

Convention week in the City of Palmerston North
The meet and greet will be held on Friday evening 22 November. The next day marvel at the beautiful entries in the National Spring Rose Show at Arena Manawatu and in the evening enjoy the banquet dinner and prizegiving. On Sunday there will be city tours and the Trial Ground Awards where you can vote on the rose of the day at the spectacular Dugald Mackenzie rose garden, which is also a WFRS garden of excellence. All day Monday and on Tuesday morning, noted lecturers will be making their presentations, on Tuesday afternoon there will be tours of local gardens. A big day Wednesday travelling two hours away to Hastings to see the noted Sam McGredy Rose collection at the garden of Georgina Campbell. Then back to Palmerston North where a farewell tea concludes the Convention activities.
Preview of the Post-tour
Leaves Palmerston North on Thursday November 28 and travels south stopping at the famous Southwards Car museum and on to the Lady Norwood rose gardens in Wellington. Following a visit to TePapa Museum your ferry will take you across Cook Strait to pretty Picton. You will visit the towns of Blenheim and Nelson then make your way to Christchurch where the tour ends on Dec 3

Photos Hayden Foulds and Georgina Campbell

17th World Rose Convention – Lyon, France, June 3-9, 2015
Hosted by the Société Française des Roses 'Les Amis des Roses'
For more information, please contact Maurice Jay, email: maurice.jay@free.fr

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### Member Societies

The World Federation of Rose Societies is the international organisation for 40 National Rose Societies around the world representing more than 100,000 individuals who share a love of the rose.

- **Argentina**
  - Asociación Argentina de Rosicultura

- **Australia**
  - National Rose Society of Australia

- **Austria**
  - Österreichische Rosenfreunde in der Österreichischen Gartenbau-Gesellschaft

- **Bangladesh (Inactive)**
  - Bangladesh National Rose Society

- **Belgium Société Royale Nationale**
  - "Les Amis de la Rose/Koninklijke Nationale Maatschappij "De Vrienden van de Roos"

- **Bermuda**
  - Bermuda Rose Society

- **Canada**
  - Canadian Rose Society

- **Chile**
  - Asociación Chilena de la Rosa

- **China**
  - Chinese Rose Society

- **Czech Republic**
  - Czech Rosa Club

- **Denmark**
  - Det Danske Rosenselskab

- **Finland**
  - Suomen Ruususeura R.Y. – Finska Rosensällskapet R.F.

- **France**
  - Société Française des Roses

- **Germany**
  - Gesellschaft Deutscher Rosenfreunde e.V.

- **Greece**
  - Hellenic Rose Society

- **Hungary**
  - Hungarian Rose Society

- **Iceland**
  - Icelandic Rose Society (IRS)

- **India**
  - Indian Rose Federation

- **Israel**
  - The Jerusalem Foundation

- **Japan**
  - Japan Rose Society

- **Luxembourg**
  - Lëtzeburger Rousselhënn/Association Grand-Ducale des Amis de la Rose

- **Monaco**
  - Société des Roses de Monaco

- **Netherlands**
  - De Nederlandse Rozenvereniging

- **New Zealand**
  - New Zealand Rose Society Inc.

- **Northern Ireland**
  - Rose Society of Northern Ireland

- **Norway**
  - Norwegian Rose Society

- **Pakistan**
  - Pakistan National Rose Society

- **Poland (Inactive)**
  - Polish Society of Rose Fanciers

- **Romania**
  - Asociatia Amici Rozelor din Romania

- **Russia**
  - Russian Association of Rosarians

- **Serbia**
  - Royal Serbian Rose Society (Kraljevsko Udruzenje Ljubitelja Ruza Srbije)

- **Slovakia**
  - Rosa Klub

- **Slovenia**
  - Drustvo Ljubiteljev Vrtnic Slovenije (Slovenian Rose Society)

- **South Africa**
  - Federation of Rose Societies of South Africa

- **Spain**
  - Asociación Española de la Rosa

- **Sweden**
  - Svenska Rosensällskapet

- **Switzerland**
  - Gesellschaft Schweizerischer Rosenfreunde

- **United Kingdom**
  - Royal National Rose Society

- **United States of America**
  - American Rose Society

- **Uruguay**
  - Asociación Uruguaya de la Rose

### ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

For contact details, see The Rose Directory 2011

Australian Rose Breeders Association
Heritage Roses in Australia Inc
Agentschap voor Natuur en Bos – Vlaamse Overheid (Agency for Nature and Forest – Flemish Government), Belgium
Royal Society for Agriculture and Botany, Belgium
Changzhou Gardening and Greening Management Bureau, China
Laizhou Chinese Rose Garden, China
Shanghai Botanical Garden, China
Taicang Rose Society, China
Les Amis de la Roseraie du Val de Marne à L’Hay-Les-Roses, France
Rosa Gallica Association (Inactive), France
Roses Anciennes en France
Société Nationale d’Horticulture de France
Fondazione Roseto Botanico “Carla Fineschi” di Cavriglia, Italy
La Tacita S.R.L., Italy
“Hana no Miyako Gifu” Centre for Promotion of Flowers and Greenery, Japan
The Rose Culture Institute, Japan
Associació Amics de les Roses de Sant Feliu de Llobregat, Spain
Quinta do Arco Rose Garden, Spain
Scottish Sweet Pea, Rose & Carnation Society