

Houston Rose Society 2009 Garden Tours

This will be an afternoon to remember. Get an early start so that you won't miss any of the sights, and make sure that your camera has plenty of film (or memory chips), and plenty of battery charge. The flowers are a-bloom in our fair City, and you'll see plenty of them. The owners of these gardens will show you what good blooms are all about.

A few suggestions: (1) Don't show up early - the Tour starts at Noon, not before. Don't stay

late, unless asked. Don't litter – pick up what you drop. Don't pluck anything. Don't ask to go inside. DO thank your hosts, and compliment their gardens. DO speak to others in the gardens. DO have a great time!

NOTE: Gardens to do have to be visited as they appear on this list.

Deanna Krause, Tour Chair

Sunday, April 19th, 12:00 pm until 6:00 pm

1. Herb and Margaret Loper 11038 Lark Brook Ln, Houston 281-807-4911

Herb and Margaret moved to their present home 2 years ago. The yard is about half the size of their previous yard. Margaret moved about 15 roses to this new yard, bringing only those that were disease resistant varieties. The bushes in the back yard were all started from cuttings. In all, the garden has 40 mostly hybrid tea roses.

Directions: Take U.S. Hwy 290 northbound to FM 1960. Right on FM 1960 to Wortham Blvd. Left to Walnut Lake Road. Left to Lark Brook Lane. Right to house on right.

2. Denise Cope 5913 Birdwood, Houston 713-771-4841

Denise is a long time rosarian that has downsized her rose garden for easy care and convenience. She is no longer growing hybrid teas, and has turned to Old Garden Roses and EarthKind roses, as they are more disease resistant. She hasn't had to spray chemicals in years! Be sure to see her favorite "Belinda's Dream" roses. There are also many perennials and herbs in her compact garden to add garden color.

Directions: Take South 610 Loop to Beechnut. Go west on Beechnut to Hillcroft; take a left (south) to Birdwood, right to house on left.

From Loper: Return to Hwy 290, and go south to Loop 610. Bear to right south past Hwy 59 and take the Beechnut Exit, right to Hillcroft, see above.

3. David and Renee Cummins #2 West 11th Place, Houston 713-524-2332

David and Renee's 1939 home is located in the West Eleventh Place Historic District and is listed in the National Register. Renee is very excited about gardening, and it shows in the beautifully designed walled garden covered with climbing roses. Antique roses are favorites, with a few shrub roses added for their beauty. Perennials and bulbs add to the riot of color. Wish we could all have her potting shed! As a special treat, the garden next door (#4) will also be available for viewing. It is the home of one of the founders of the Houston Bulb Mart. There will be flyers on hand describing all the above.

Directions: Directions: From US Hwy 59, go south on Main or Fannin to Binz/Bissonnet, right across Montrose to W 11th, left to first house on right.

From Cope: Return to Hillcroft, left (north) to Hwy 59, right to Main Street Exit, right on Main to Binz/Bissonnet, right to West 11th Place, left to first house on right.

4. Nick and Lucy Schmidt, Dorothy Winter 2217 Huckleberry Ln, Pasadena 713-477-3677

Lucy calls her yard “a bird and butterfly-friendly garden with roses.” A former exhibitor of miniature roses, Lucy still has many of those roses she used to exhibit, but has added many antique roses bought from a nursery going out of business, some of which she calls her nameless adopted roses. Her mother, Dorothy Winter, now residing with daughter Lucy, has incorporated some of her own roses into the garden. Fragrant olive trees add to the mixture of perennials, annuals, and roses.

Directions: Take 610 Loop east to Hwy 225. Travel Hwy 225 to the Pasadena Blvd/Red Bluff Exit, right (south) on Pasadena Blvd past Southmore Avenue and Strawberry Road to Huckleberry, right to house in second block on left.

From Cummings: Return east on Bissonnet (becomes Binz) past Fannin to San Jacinto, left to Hwy 59 entrance (just past Blodgett), right onto Hwy 59, then bear left to I-45 South, right to Loop 610, left to Hwy 225, right to Pasadena Blvd/Red Bluff Exit, see above.

5. Harris County Precinct 2, Master Gardeners 1202 Genoa-Red Bluff, Houston 77034

Master Gardeners in the Pasadena area have transformed a Hurricane Ike storm collection site into a wonderful working display garden. Not only will you see a number of named roses, but also a good collection of named fruit trees and other colorful plants. The greenhouses hold plants being started for periodic sales and planting in the garden site.

Directions: From I-45 South, take the Fuqua Exit, and cross over the freeway going eastbound. The site is just past Burke Road, and is on the right. Look for the gate marked “Harris County Precinct 2 Master Gardeners”.

From Schmidt/Winter: South to Cherrybrook Lane, left to Burke Rd, right 1.5 miles to end of street at Genoa-Red Bluff, left to site on right.

6. Soledad de la Cerda, Claudio Soto 2403 Pine Dr, Friendswood 832-247-3145

Soledad admits that roses are her favorite flowers; she admires their beauty, but hates their thorns. It has been three years since she started planting roses in her garden, and in the process she has had both successes and failures, but concludes that roses are now part of their lives and part of their garden landscape. Most of her roses are in an oval bed in front of her house. She mixes old garden roses, hybrid teas, and shrub roses together in this bed, for a spectacular welcome to her home. Go through the breezeway to a surprise backyard. There is a vegetable garden, a pool, a playground, and many tropical plants, grown from small plants. Look for the climbing roses on the fences to the right, and plants in containers.

Directions: Take I-45 South to Exit 26 at Bay Area Blvd, right on Bay Area Blvd to FM 528, right to Winding Way Drive, left (south) on Winding Way to Oak Drive, left on Oak, and bear right onto Butler to end of street, left on Pine Street to house on right.

From Harris County Master Gardeners: East on Genoa-Red Bluff to Beltway 8, right on access road past the Toll Plaza, then enter the freeway, exit onto I-45 South towards Galveston, take Exit 26 onto Bay Area Blvd, see above.

Garden Tour Map / Sunday April 19, 2009

