

Mike Shoup



G. Mike Shoup has always had an interest in plants. With this in mind, he received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology from Trinity University and his Master's degree in Horticulture from Texas A & M University. In 1976, a year after graduation he started Containerized Plants, Inc. which grew and sold woody plants and hardy, old-fashioned perennials, Texas natives and most

importantly - neglected Old Garden Roses.

In 1984 he opened the Antique Rose Emporium which specialized in the re-introduction and distribution of these historic roses. This developed into display garden/retail centers in historic Independence and San Antonio, Texas. These unique retail centers consist of theme gardens showing the versatility of antique roses in garden settings. His work has been recognized in Smithsonian and National Geographic magazines and in many trade journals as well. His hope that the beauty seen in these gardens will create resurgence in the preservation of these rare and beautiful roses.

Mike is a past president of the board of directors of the Heritage Rose Foundation, an organization dedicated to the preservation of Old Garden Roses. He has also written many articles and supplied numerous photographs for trade magazines and national periodicals on the subject of using Old Garden Roses in today's gardens. He has written two books, *Roses in the Southern Garden*, published in 2000 and in 1991 published *Landscaping with Antique Roses*, co-authored with Liz Druitt and Empress of the Garden.

Mike and his wife, Jean, have three children and are active in many organizations in Brenham including Unity Theater, Chamber of Commerce and Rotary.

Presentation:

Lessons from a Texas Rose Rustler: Rose Rustling, the search and rescue of lost and forgotten roses has yielded some incredible garden roses. Stories of the acquisition alone have made intriguing books of both fiction and non fiction. But these mystery roses along with other old garden roses have proven to be an ultimate garden plant. Discussion will dwell on the best varieties, their fragrance, some history and most importantly their use and character (persona) in the landscape. Additional discussion will dwell on an organic approach to their care with emphasis on aerobic compost tea: is it a miracle elixir for health and vigor of plants?

Steven Chamblee



Steven L. Chamblee has been active in horticulture for over 30 years. Developing his love for plants by transplanting trees with his father back in the late 1970's, Steven soon formed Southern Lawn Care, a landscape maintenance company. In 1986, he joined the Fort Worth Botanic Garden as a Gardener. His natural curiosity led him to enroll in Tarrant County Junior College, where he earned his AAS (Associate of Applied Science) degree in Horticulture. Still working full-time at the Garden, Steven earned his Bachelor's degree in Horticulture from Tarleton State University. He then received a fellowship in the prestigious Longwood Graduate Program, and earned

the Master's of Science degree in Public Horticulture Administration from the University of Delaware. After graduate school, Steven served as the Native Plant Horticulturist for the Heard Natural Science Museum in McKinney, Texas, before returning to the Fort Worth Botanic Garden as the Grounds Manager. As the Education Director for the Garden, he focused on developing a variety of self-sustaining educational programs. Currently the Chief Horticulturist for Chandor Gardens in Weatherford, Steven uses his collective experiences to bring vibrant artistic expression to the garden and inspired educational opportunities to the community.

Presentations:

Texas Shade Gardens: Contrary to many popular perceptions, shade gardens in Texas can be lovely oases of seasonal color and delightful textures, but proper plant selection is critical. Steven will guide you through the pitfalls and perils that await the novice shade gardener, so you can enjoy great shade garden success the first time. Detailed hand-out included

Great Garden Ideas: Go "idea shopping" at Longwood Gardens, Chanticleer, Chandor Gardens, and dozens of stunning private gardens from coast to coast. While initially designed to provide inspiration to people planning or restoring a garden, this program has unexpectedly proven to be a welcome resource for artists. Learn about form, texture, contrast, framing, detail, and whimsy from some of the finest minds in horticulture today

Jerry Parsons



Jerry Parsons, Ph.D., is a retired horticulture specialist with the Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service. He has been a popular Extension Service personality for more than two decades, becoming something of a cult figure in the agricultural world of South Texas. Parsons has been responsible for educating and entertaining the Alamo City and surrounding area with weekly horticultural information on TV

and radio and in newspaper for over 40 years. Although his specialty is vegetable production, Parsons has revolutionized the plant introduction arena and is the father of CEMAP (the Coordinated Educational Marketing Assistance Program) at Texas A&M University. The plant introduction and promotion program is now copied by similar programs throughout the United States.

Since 1974 when Parsons came to San Antonio as a horticulturist for the Extension Service, a system of cooperative testing and local marketing has introduced productive hybrid tomatoes, peppers, and several other types of vegetables.

He also has introduced such popular flowers as 'Blue Shade' Ruellia and 'Bonita' pink 'Katie Dwarf' Ruellia; 'Tex-Tuf' verbenas; 'Firebush' (Hamelia patens); 'Texas Gold' columbine; 'Indigo Spires' salvia; 'Carpet' petunias; 'Mari-Mum' marigold; 'Plum Parfait', 'Eclipse' and 'Burgundy Sun' coleus; 'Belinda's Dream' rose; 'Blue Princess' verbena; 'VIP' petunia and 'Laura Bush' petunia; Firespike (Odonotema strictum); 'Stars and Stripes' pentas; 'Moy Grande', 'Red River' and 'Flare' perennial hibiscus; 'Bunny Bloom' larkspur; Dwarf Bush Morning Glory; Purple Heart (Setcreasea pallida).

Stirring up a little controversy, he introduced a host of new Texas bluebonnet colors such as 'Barbara Bush' lavender, 'Abbott Pink', and 'Texas Maroon' — his own creations. He also developed the Texas state flower into a bedding plant, spurring what is now a multi-million dollar industry.

Presentations:

Concho Valley Texas Superstars: "Texas SuperStar" is a Texas A&M University System trademarked nomenclature and label which is bestowed on specially selected plants which have attributes that make them Texas' tough and consumer friendly. Skeptics often wonder how certain plants can be chosen as "better" than others. While it is true some people have never met a plant they didn't like, plants which attain SuperStar status must be attractive and useful to the masses rather a special few "collectors". Every effort is made to ensure that SuperStar plants will consistently perform well for Texas consumers regardless of their plant growing expertise or location in Texas. The majority of plant selections which have attained the Texas SuperStar status have originated in San Antonio under the tutelage of horticulture interests in this area.

See: http://plantanswers.com/superstar_listing.htm

Dr. Jerry M. Parsons is widely regarded as the "Father" of the Texas' SuperStar program and will be discussing the best SuperStar Plants for our area.

The Colorization of the Bluebonnet: The complete history and chronological development for 40 years of finding, isolation and seed increase of the many color hues of the Texas State flower. The first marketed selections which have resulted are 'Abbott Pink', 'Barbara Bush,' 'Texas Maroon' (also known as 'Alamo Fire'), 'Lady Bird Johnson Royal Blue', 'Purple Heart' and a white selection from Wildseed Farms in Fredericksburg, Texas. The once-ultimate goal of planting a red, white and blue Texas' flag of nothing but bluebonnets was achieved in 2000. www.plantanswers.com/sabbstory.htm

