



NASHVILLE ROSE LEAF

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NASHVILLE ROSE SOCIETY
SERVING ROSE ENTHUSIASTS THROUGHOUT MIDDLE TENNESSEE



JUNE 2009

Affiliated with the American Rose Society - www.ars.org

Volume 43, Issue 5

June 7th NRS Meeting at Cheekwood

Grand Prix I

6:00 - 6:45 pm Beginner Program Sam Jones - Summer Rose Care 6:30 pm Refreshments

7:00 pm Speaker Bill Anderson from MTSU Plant & Soil Science Department

June Rose of the Month
The McCartney Rose
Glenda's Favorite



By: Sam Jones

**Hybrid Tea, Medium Pink, 7.9 ARS Rating
(Meiland, 1995)**

*"A lifelong love, a perfect friend
Know that time it heals, but love... it never ends...
Moving on, new strength to see
We cannot replace the friend or memories . . ."*

(From: Waiting at Heaven's Door – A McCartney Rose; Words & Music by Bridget & Joseph Hooker)

Words from the song above were written in tribute to the late Linda McCartney, wife of Beatle musician Paul McCartney. Described as "a McCartney Rose – Waiting at Heaven's Door," Linda inspired her husband's love songs in life and death, and these words apply also to Glenda Whitaker, whose personal favorite was *The McCartney Rose*.

(Cont'd on Page 10)

Glenda Whitaker

1931 - 2009



By: Marilyn Wellan

Glenda Whitaker's life was filled with many blessings – the blessings of family, faith and home, but also a deep love of roses and rose gardening. Glenda and her husband, former ARS President Robert Lee Whitaker, Sr., adopted roses as the hobby that would be a major part of their lives together.

As a loyal and active member of the American Rose Society since the late 50's, Glenda Whitaker was a major force in the organization. She was an innovative, talented and inspiring leader. She held most major positions in her local rose society – Nashville Rose Society— including serving as president in 2002, and was co-editor of the National Award-winning

(Cont'd on page 6)

Photo courtesy of The Conard-Pyle Co./Star®

Photo courtesy of The Whitaker Family

President's Column

June is busting out all over!!!

Reaping the results from the early spring preparations, which you gave to your plants, you are now being rewarded with a celebration of roses. Greek mythology is filled with lush images of the rose. Aphrodite chose roses as her personal symbol. The Romans used roses so lavishly that there was a complaint that Italy was not growing enough corn. France had images of roses woven into Unicorn Tapestries. Madame de Pompadour carried them wherever she went. And Empress Josephine was an ardent collector. What is your passion: admiring a new garden on a sunny morning in the lingering fragrance, entertaining with friends, a June wedding, strawberry-rose sorbet, or giving a bouquet.

These feelings help us to remember Glenda Whitaker, whose beauty was as delicate as the roses she so loved.

June is selected as the month for our own rose society's Grand Prix I. What a show it will be if every member brings an entry. It's time to show off and be proud of your efforts. Whether you are a new grower or an experienced one, there is a place for your flower to shine against others. Experienced exhibitors will be on hand to provide guidance in preparation for your entry. Visit the Nashville Rose Society website for very informative information on growing and exhibiting your roses.

— Sandra Frank.

NRS Patrons

Our thanks to the following businesses and foundations who have made sustaining donations to support the educational programs of Nashville Rose Society:

Houghland Foundation

NASHVILLE ROSE LEAF, JUNE 2009

Editor's Desk

Jim and I had not long been members of the NRS before the name Glenda Whitaker surfaced. We must have heard her name a hundred times before we ever laid eyes upon her. I quickly assumed that someone with such esteemed status in both the Nashville and American Rose Societies would have little time for a couple of blundering rose peons such as Jim and I. Shortly thereafter at an NRS meeting, a small tap on my shoulder turned my head to face a sweet, welcoming smile beaming from a small woman leaning heavily on her cane. Glenda Whitaker introduced herself to me. "Are you THE Glenda Whitaker?" I asked awkwardly. Clearly embarrassed by the question, she blushed, shook my hand and expressed HER gratitude to meet ME. She went on to explain how she was committed to introducing herself to new members, assuring they felt properly welcomed.

In no time, a strong bond would be forged as we communicated back and forth about our commonalities; ranging from the sorrow of being widowed to the joy of a shared Christian faith. Glenda made each person she spoke to feel as if they held a special place in her life. Jim and I probably knew her the least amount of time of anyone in the NRS, yet she captured our hearts quickly, effortlessly, and likely without knowing the profound effect she would have on our lives. While we only knew her briefly, neither of us will ever forget her. Summoned to what would be her deathbed, Jim and I listened as Glenda charged us to continue the tradition that new members are always greeted and made to feel welcome by an existing member. We challenge each of you to help us honor this request.

During that final visit, I was determined to find out the name of her favorite rose. She was happy to share the information. Not knowing it was then Glenda's favorite, Jim and I had just recently ordered The McCartney Rose. I cannot tend to this rose without smiling and thinking of her. Although it was a sorrowful sight when the bush arrived, I must say it is very happy in its new home. As I recently bent down to smell its first bloom, I could almost hear Glenda assuring me that she, too, is happy in her new home, walking hand in hand with her Bob through the unimaginable rose gardens in heaven.

— Jim & Starla Harding
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NRS Announcements



JUNE SPEAKER

Dr. Warren Anderson

Professor Plant and Soil Science, School of Agribusiness and Agriscience [ABAS], Middle Tennessee State University.

Dr. Anderson has been at MTSU since August 1978 after receiving his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois.

He has been a Master Gardener since 2001. He has also attended and made presentations at Master Gardener Winter Schools. Since 2005, Dr. Anderson and his students from his agribusiness and agriscience classes, (ABAS 3370 and ABAS 4370), have been building rain gardens on the MTSU campus.

This year he is Co-Chair for Community Projects for Rutherford County Master Gardeners. The projects include a garden for Middle School students at Oaklands Historic House, establishing a community garden at the extension center, and continued maintenance of a one acre vineyard master gardeners and MTSU students established in 2005.



ARS News

Be sure to vote! ARS Ballots are now available to most members through a four-page insert in the May/June issue of *American Rose* along with candidate resumes and a candidate question & answer section. An online ballot is now available to ARS members at www.ars.org. If you want to know more about each candidate you can visit their websites:

Bob Martin

<http://www.bobmartinarsvp.com/>

Jolene Adams

<http://home.comcast.net/~jolene4vp/>

THE BEGINNING ROSARIAN

June Rose Care

By: Diva D. Delight



Wasn't the first flush of blooming roses gorgeous in May? Now that's why you want to grow magnificent roses. My name is Diva [which means Goddess by the way]. My last name is Double Delight®. I am red and white with red edges as you can see in my photo. I have a very large blooms and a wonderfully citrus spicy fragrance. I am frequently awarded "The Most Fragrant Rose" in the Nashville Grand Prix. I am also used a lot in designs in rose shows and am one of Lori Emery's favorite roses. Oops, I digress. She asked me to write this article for her because she has been so busy; her son Ryan just graduated from David Lipscomb High School and will be going to Arkansas State University this fall. As you might imagine, she is Delighted! [Sorry, I just couldn't help myself.]

There are 3 essential points that Lori wants me to tell you to concentrate on in June. Roses are a lovely addition to any garden, as you know. First of all, she is delighted that you are reading this newsletter and have roses! You will not be disappointed.

1. Roses are no different than any other plant in your garden. All I need is food, water and sunshine. Chances are you used a long acting fertilizer on me in April and I'm already getting my 6 hours of sun. All you have to do now is make sure I get plenty of water this month because June can be very hot and dry. Put a rain gauge close to me. If I don't get an inch of water a week, then water me. Now how hard is that? Just a little love from you and I will bloom all summer long and well into autumn. If you want a totally maintenance free garden, fill it with rocks and artificial roses. Lori actually read an article in a newspaper last year about a women who was so frustrated because the deer ate all her flowers, so she planted artificial flowers, (maybe she didn't want to invest in an electric fence). But that wouldn't be any fun and certainly not fragrant. If you are going to be jetting around the country this month, then you may want to hire someone to come and check on us or have a watering system on a timer. At one time, Lori used a soaker

hose to water us. But she really likes to come out on Saturday morning and give us a nice refreshing shower and a good long drink of water. This gives her a chance to inspect the underside of my leaves that can frequently hide bugs, which I hate! It is also a very relaxing time for her to listen to the birds and insects in the yard.

2. Insects—keep them off me! Speaking of bugs, Japanese Beetles [JB] will be here any day now. PLEASE don't; let them eat me! Don't waste your time and money on sprays or powders, they only kill the JB they come in contact with. If you have plenty of time, you can hand pick them off of us and throw them into hot soapy water and they will drown. Don't squish them. I know it is very tempting, but all that does is release a sex scent and guess what? all their friends will come to your garden. In general, JB traps usually attract more beetles than they catch, another waste of money. If you don't have a lot of time, just cut my blooms off until the JB leave, if you can stand not to see me bloom for 6 weeks. The JB is probably the biggest pest for me in June. If you see damage from other insects this month, try to figure out what the insect is and then use a spray that is effective against that insect. I have heard that most rosarians don't spray unless they see an insect problem. This is to prevent the accidental death of beneficial insects.

3. Take care of yourself so you can take care of me. The last thing Lori wants you to do is take care of yourself. I know how addicting my cousins and I can be to you humans. You think you are just going to take a quick peek at us to see how we are doing. Then you decide to remove some spent blooms, (which encourages us to bloom more, by the way), then you decide to cut some of our blooms to take to work or to your neighbors. Well, heck, might as well spray while you're at it. Before you know it, you have been outside for hours. No hat, no sunscreen, short sleeve shirt, shorts, flip flops, no protective equipment (used when spraying). What, no protective equipment? Never! Not even once or twice. Especially if you are going to be growing roses for a long time, because we are so rewarding and fun to be around. So she wants you to be around to take care of

us. In addition to protecting yourself, how is your balance these days? Lori wants you to take this little test. Stand in the kitchen in front of a counter, (close enough for you to touch it if you need to). Close your eyes and bend at the knee, lifting your leg off the ground. Count for how many seconds you can balance without toppling over. If you fall over immediately, you have the balance of a 60 yr. old, 3.7 seconds a 50 yr. old, 7.2 seconds a 40 yr. old, 15 seconds a 30 yr. old and more than 22 seconds a 20 yr. old. How old is your balance? Lori got this balance information from a book she is reading called *Fitness after 40: How to stay strong at any age*, by Vonda Wright MD Amazon 2009. After age 65, one in three people will fall down while doing their daily activities, (including gardening). Dr. Wright encourages people to work on their balance daily. In addition to the balance exercise, she recommends yoga, Tai chi and pilates to help your balance. You won't be able to take very good care of your roses if you fall and break a leg or a hip. So take Dr. Wright's advice and work on your balance daily.

Ok, let's sum this up so you can go play with your roses. Food and water are essential. JB is probably the most devastating insect EVER. The easiest thing to do is cut back those of us that the JB seem to crave and attack the most. Luckily, they don't eat all roses in Lori's garden, only the ones that strike their fancy. Lastly, take care of yourself. Plan to work in your garden just as you plan to exercise or to go to an appointment. You wouldn't go for a 30 minute walk in cowboy boots, you would wear walking shoes. Be sure you are dressed appropriately to work in your garden. Use sunscreen, wear a hat, long sleeved shirt and long pants and respirator when spraying.

I know Lori is happy I was able to write this article for her. I hope you have lots of roses and enjoy them as much as Lori enjoys us. Don't forget to share your roses with friends, family, coworkers, and anyone else you meet along the way.

Have a Delightful June!!

from the ground up

Invasion of the Rosebud Snatchers

by:
leann
barron

Okay, I confess. For Lent, I promised to abstain from evil garden pesticides, and faithfully kept my organic vow throughout the Lenten season. I am a big believer in organic garden practices, and continually strive to be a pesticide-free gardener. But...the day after Easter, all bets were off. The garden was about to become blissfully, certifiably, 100% toxic.

Why? Unbeknownst to us, our garden had been chosen as the official site of the 2009 American Aphid Society National Convention. This is one bunch of rowdy convention-goers you don't want. It's an unpleasant surprise, akin to learning that your next door neighbor is hosting the Woodstock festival. You know there will be a lot of uninvited guests 'using' your shrubs for various seedy, and quite likely illegal purposes. You also know that nothing good can possibly come from teeming throngs of sweaty, unwashed youngsters cavorting through your bushes.

This spring promised to be one of the most beautiful garden seasons on record. Delighted, I discovered that my 'New Dawn' rose was covered with thousands of large pink buds, guaranteeing a spectacular show just in time for my lovely daughter's big wedding. But on closer inspection, the tender rose buds were completely encrusted with appallingly thirsty, sap-sucking creatures. It was the Bubonic Plague of Aphids. Millions, billions, gazillions of aphids. The entire Aphid Army, Air Force, Navy and Marines had convened on my precious roses. Hands down, this green gathering was the largest in the country. I counted 2 million, zillion aphids on one bush alone.

So much for my pacifism. This meant war. Breaking land speed records, I arrived at the neighborhood organic garden supply store and explained my dilemma to the clerk. Furtively, he looked around, then grabbed me by the shoulders and pulled me into the corner. "Look," he says, "I am as green as the next person, but if your daughter's getting married in two weeks, and you have that many aphids, you have no choice but to get out the heavy artillery." He handed me a

giant bottle of something nasty, embellished with **DANGER: POISON** warning signs and skull & crossbones in bold print and sent me home out the back door. "That'll kill the little beasties!" He yelled, shaking his fist, as I careened out of the parking lot.

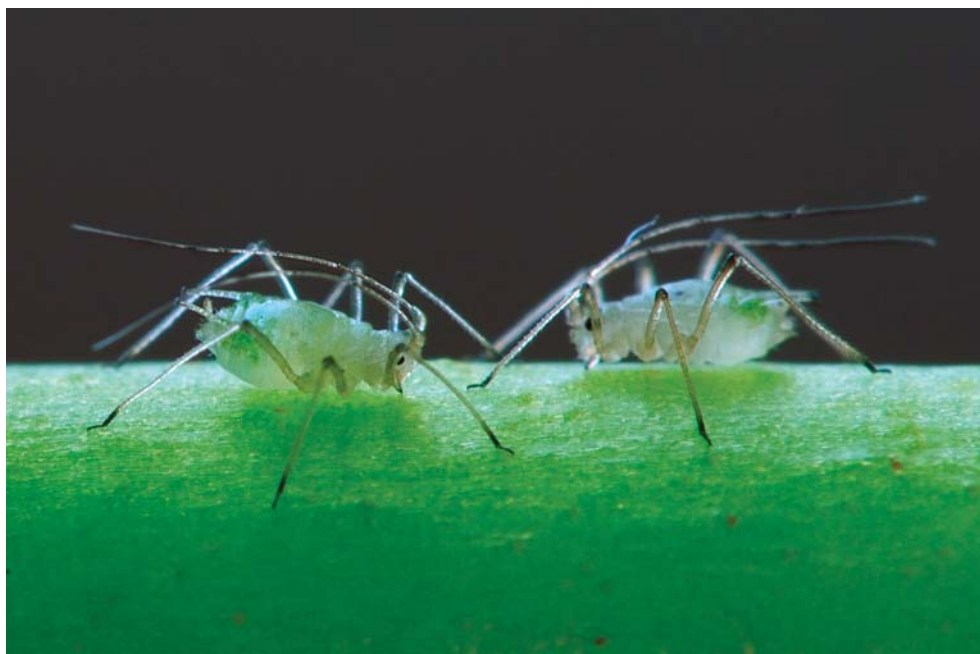
While I occasionally use fungicides, I remain wary of insecticides, eschewing them as much as possible because of my life-long devotion to butterflies, bees, and other delicate beneficial insects. It's powerful poison, for heaven's sake, and passersby love to bury their noses in the fragrant blooms along our sidewalk. My previous experience with insecticide use had sadly culminated in the death of a newborn baby cardinal, still sitting in part of its little eggshell in the nest. Hidden in a massive climbing rose, I had accidentally sprayed the hapless creature. This time, I told myself, I would be careful to look before I sprayed. Driving down the road, I could smell the toxicity through the bottle, and knew it would kill everything in sight, including me if I breathed much more of the stuff. I rolled down the window and hung my head out like a dog.

However, highly motivated by the thoughts of pending nuptials and out-of-town guests, I donned the safety "cos-

tume," complete with snazzy blue respirator snugly strapped around my head. Wearing the garish garb, I always feel a bit like a circus clown. Mental note: Must design more stylish ladies' garden attire. Out I went, armed and ready with my trusty cannon, a 5-gallon super-duper bad boy power sprayer with shiny brass trigger and turbo-nozzle, guaranteed to send any offending critter, at warp-speed, to bug heaven. This year's big aphid convention was about to come to a rousing finale, with my compliments.

Before firing my first shot, I looked carefully into the big rambling rose, and sure enough, the mama cardinal had again built her nest in the very same spot, in the very same bush. I was relieved to know that at least she had survived my carelessness.

Avoiding that area, I leveled my high pressure spray trigger at the horde of aphids and yelled at the top of my lungs: "Prepare to die, you savage little sap-sucking rose wreckers! Meet your Maker, you fat, free-loading fiends!" I blasted them to kingdom come, and then squirted a little extra for good measure, relishing every poison drop I unloaded on the unsuspecting party-goers. And next year, I suggest you take your convention elsewhere.



Master Rosarian

Glenda and Bob Whitaker joined the Nashville Rose Society about six years after its founding in 1953. During their 50 years of immersion in the American Rose Society at every level, from their own rose garden to World Rose Shows, they have provided spirit, knowledge, influence, leadership, and inspiration to everyone they encountered about the joy of roses. Glenda not only served as a docent at the Governor's Residence, but she and Bob trained the Governor's gardener, and with the Nashville Rose Society, installed a rose garden providing fresh roses daily for the Residence. They welcomed four ARS National Conventions and Rose Shows to Nashville, Bob once as National Rose Show Chair, and three times together as Convention Co-Chairs, setting the highest standards for these nation-wide gatherings of rosarians and the public dedicated to the beauty and pleasures of roses.

Not only did Glenda and Bob infuse the Nashville Rose Society with "precept and example" about growing roses, but they provided the spiritual soul for the society, as well. For instance, as a recent NRS President, Glenda would personally call members whom she did not see at meetings, or who had not renewed their membership and offer them a warm, friendly invitation to continue their active involvement in the society. Wherever she attended rose shows, whether judging or entering roses or beautiful arrangements, she carried with her brochures about joining the Nashville Rose Society. Whenever she spoke to Garden Clubs, at the

conclusion of her enthusiastic talk about roses, up to ten people from the Club often joined the rose society. It is no wonder that during her Presidency in 2002, "The Year of the Rose," the Nashville Rose Society increased its membership with 100 new members!



It is hard to recite the accomplishments that Glenda and Bob have contributed here and nationwide to America's love affair with roses through the American Rose Society. The American Rose Center in Shreveport, Louisiana, has a "Hall of Honor" in the Klima Educational Center that is a lasting memorial for their generosity, sacrifice, dedication, and vision of what roses can offer the world as "Queen of Flowers." Bob Whitaker has rightly been awarded the ARS Gold Honor Medal, the highest award given by the ARS,

for his outstanding meritorious leadership. Glenda Whitaker is among the select group of persons given the highest award that an ARS district can bestow, the ARS Silver Honor Medal, a recognition also bestowed on her husband Bob as well as two other NRS members, the late John Brevard and our own Anne Owen. But for Glenda, such honors pale in comparison to the value she placed on relationships, friendships, and faithfulness to God, family, and God's creation. More than honors, she lived by the motto: "Make new friends, but keep the old. Some are silver and the others gold." The silver and gold that she invested in were God and people and they are the lasting legacy she now bequeaths.

In the annals of the Nashville and American Rose Societies, two names loom large and hold lasting sway as a vision for what roses can mean as symbols of love, inspiration, creativity, and beauty for gardeners who dare to plant, cultivate, and enjoy them. Those names are Bob and Glenda Whitaker. It is their spirit and vision that gave roses to Lynn Anderson, Minnie Pearl, Brenda Lee, and Pam Tillis. Roses which, with

other star-namesakes, have given birth to the Nashville Music Garden. Others provided sweat, planning, and expert advice, but the spirit of roses in Nashville shone brightly through Bob and Glenda Whitaker. From that spirit the Nashville Rose Society can say to Lynn Anderson, "Yes, we promised you roses, and a rose garden, too." Thank you, Glenda and Bob that you have promised and delivered us roses, which we can plant, grow, and enjoy in our own gardens!

Glenda Whitaker

(Cont'd from page 1)

First Lady of the ARS

local society bulletin, the The Rose Leaf (now known as Nashville Rose Leaf). The Nashville Rose Society is one of ARS's most successful affiliate societies because of her service and her example. One of Glenda's most effective skills was her ability to encourage others to serve and to excel.

Her involvement in any project was always wholehearted; and the results were predictably outstanding. She was an indispensable contributor in hosting local, district and national rose shows, seminars and schools. Her spirit of cooperation has been a model for all.

Glenda was often drawn into service because of her talents for fund-raising, promotions, ceremonies and special occasions. Glenda led the celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the American Rose Society in 1992. She brought famed Nashville legends into the rose spotlight and into her realm of ARS friends, including Lynn Anderson, Brenda Lee, Minnie Pearl, with whom she developed a special friendship, and Pam Tillis, who sees Glenda as one of her role models in life and in the rose garden.

Glenda gained the support of the Governor and First Lady of the State of Tennessee for the Year of the Rose-2002; and roses are a featured flower at the Governor's residence due to the efforts of Glenda and the late Bob Whitaker.

Glenda Whitaker's gifts of time and dedication might have reached a peak after her husband's term as ARS President, and even after multiple bouts with cancer. But to the contrary: her enduring support for the well-being of the Nashville Rose Society and the American Rose Society continued for many years. She always worked tirelessly for the rose and for the goals and mission of the rose society; and her strength and dedication seemed to be endless.

In 2007, the American Rose Society created the Glenda Whitaker Award for Achievement in Membership to recognize those who follow the excellent example she set on behalf of the Society. Glenda's charming and gracious presence, her dedication and inspirational leadership inspired many of us to think of her as American Rose Society's First Lady of Roses. She will always be that for me.



Bob & Glenda at the Nashville Rose Show at the 100 Oaks Mall



Glenda, Bob & Marilyn at the ARS 2002 Convention in Philadelphia



Ann Lott, Glenda Whitaker, and Nancy Jones show the award-winning display-quilt dedicated to Bob Whitaker at the Shreveport Spring National Convention, 2005. The memorial design was created by NRS member Janet Shew and quilted by members of the Nashville Rose Society.



Presentation March 2002 at the Governor's mansion L to R: Diane Thierauf, First Lady Martha Sundquist, Bob & Glenda Whitaker



Glenda and Bob Whitaker, America's favorite rose couple, admire the blooms at the American Rose Society Convention in Portland, OR



Pam Tillis (left) presents to Glenda Whitaker and her daughter, Mary, Gold CDs of the 1991 Brenda Lee Anthology, Volumes 1 and 2 (1956-1980), at the Shreveport National Convention, 2005. Pictured also is Sam Jones

Photo courtesy of John Maitita

Glenda Whitaker

By Ted Mills

A Queen Indeed

When we speak of reaching the status of “Queen” in the rose kingdom this means superlative distinction. It characterizes the highest recognition that a rose can achieve. There is a definite correlation between the rose and our dear departed friend, Glenda Whitaker. She possessed all the qualities that are considered “queenly.” She was truly the perfect ambassador for the American Rose Society (ARS), an association that she dearly loved and sponsored with sincere enthusiasm.

Glenda, a long time member of the Nashville Rose Society was the catalyst that made the Society one of America’s best. Her involvement in rose activities was tremendous. Always willing and able to help the aspiring beginner, she volunteered to impart wise counsel. Her rose garden was a place of beauty that was always open to the person who truly loved roses.

Involvement in rose culture did not stop at the local level with Glenda. It spread to the four corners of the USA. The American Rose Society benefited from her numerous volunteer endeavors. She and her late husband, Bob, made the perfect team to spread the gospel of growing roses. Perhaps no couple in ARS has done more to encourage the aspiring rosarian to grow roses well.

Not only did this wonderful woman participate in rose activities, she was a tireless worker in civic fields and anything that would enhance the quality of life for fellow citizens. Charitable organizations were uppermost in her interest as she sought to lighten the burden of the troubled among us. Glenda was a devout Christian who practiced her faith with a strong effort to honor her Lord. Her love for Christ was paramount in her life. In spite of serious illness, she continued a strong love for doing good toward others.

When one thinks of Glenda’s record of service in the rose world, it is easy to see that she served her local rose society well. The Tenarky District and ARS also benefited from her many acts of service. She won almost every major award that is offered by the ARS. She served in leadership positions both locally and nationally. During her late husband’s tenure as ARS President, she complemented his leadership role by being a mainstay throughout his presidency.

Glenda knew that I had become a victim of cancer. She kept in contact and her kind words of encouragement helped me fight this battle. She was deeply interested in my survival and her words of placing complete trust in the Lord were a source of comfort. I shall always remember her kindness. To me she was definitely a “Queen.”



The Leah Rose Legacy Garden Dedication at the Knowles Senior Citizen Center, May, 2005. Pictured are (left to right), Glenda Whitaker, Edie Simpkins, Louis & Mona Mishu, Sally Solsbey, Robbie & Charles Griggs



Bob and Glenda Whitaker receiving the ARS Bronze Award (Princess of the Show) at a National Rose Show



Glenda Whitaker - Exhibitor



Grandmother of eight: L to R Peter Jordan, Ashley Whitaker, Linnea Jordan, Jacqueline Whitaker, Glenda Whitaker (seated), Connor Whitaker, Crystal Stanford Jackson, Michael Stanford, Whitaker Jordan

Glenda Whitaker Remembered

As most of you know on March 30, 2009, longtime NRS member Glenda Whitaker passed away. Through her membership in the Nashville and American Rose Societies Glenda was an active crusader for roses, and she was a positive influence in the lives of numerous people including many members of Nashville Rose Society. As part of the June issue of Nashville Rose Leaf we gave the NRS members an opportunity to voice their memories of this remarkable lady:

Glenda--her capacity for hard work and continuance under the most difficult of circumstances was unlimited. A courageous woman!

— Susan Sinclair

Glenda was among the first NRS members to learn our names and made it a point to come and speak to us, calling us by name, as we attended our early meetings always making us feel included.

— Ann Lott

Shortly after Ann and I joined Nashville Rose Society I donated a handmade rose marker that I crafted in my woodworking shop for the NRS Silent Auction. In hindsight I realize the marker was not too attractive, but I was proud of it and placed it for a price of \$2. Near the end of the auction there were no bids and then Glenda placed her bid for \$5. Now I know she and Bob did not need another rose marker. As I got to know her better I realized that she placed that bid to keep a new member encouraged.

— Charles Lott

Glenda was the epitome of a Southern lady and a great role model. She always remembered names of newcomers and made them feel welcome. She shared her love of roses with us all and lived her life with grace. NRS will not be the same without her.

— Marty Reich

I first met Glenda Whitaker at a Patrons' Luncheon at an ARS National Convention. I was new to the organization and entered a room full of people that I didn't know. I must have looked quite lost in not knowing where to sit, for Glenda came up to me and invited me to sit with her and fellow Nashville Rose Society members. During the luncheon, Glenda talked about ARS membership and how she never left home without an ARS membership application in her pocket. Her enthusiasm for ARS and the rose was so contagious that I joined the Nashville Rose Society that afternoon and vowed to follow in her venerable

footsteps and to do all things possible to increase ARS membership. Glenda is the reason I give so much of my time and my heart to ARS. My hope is that I can be of help to ARS and also be someone she would be proud of.

— Pat Shanley

The year I became a member Ms. Glenda loaded us newbie's in her van to visit Mr. Louis Mishu. After a wonderful tour of his gardens, we raced to the Governors Mansion and had a private tour of the Rose garden there. It was an afternoon I will long remember with this beautiful Christian Lady.

— Denise Thorne

I didn't know Glenda well but she was a warm sweet caring person and so devoted to our rose society.

— Alyse Sprintz

Glenda was blessed with the true gift of hospitality. Always warm and welcoming...

— Cindy Worch

Glenda Whitaker, matriarch of the Nashville Rose Society, was the most amazing woman I have ever met. I will always be inspired by her incredible faith and love of God, her fortitude, perseverance and strength in all aspects of her life.

— Lori Emery

It was always a special time when Ken and I would visit Glenda at her home. Ken said her Steinway piano sounded better than any he had played – and Glenda loved for him to play! I enjoyed looking through her many books of rose pictures. Our last visit was the Sunday after the pruning clinic and Glenda was up and ready for a stroll in her garden when we arrived – she said she had her “Saturday night bath”. Bless her always – I know she is sending us these good showers and sunshine to make our roses grow beautifully this year.

— Ken and Lynda Correll

Whenever anyone mentions roses, the name of Glenda Whitaker and her love for roses will inevitably surface. As great as her love for roses was, that love was surpassed by her love for people. Glenda never stopped giving of herself to help others no matter how bad she felt if there was a need. Her desire to make the lives of others happier and more beautiful never faded. Although Glenda is no longer with us, the memory of her loving and helping life will not fade away. When we think of Glenda, we cannot help but think of Proverbs 11:16 “A kindhearted woman gains respect.”

— Walter and Barbara Gant

We've lost our rock, our reference point, our living history. Glenda was passionate about the rose and shared her infectious joy with us all. How blessed we were to have had her in our midst.

— Don Reed, NRS President, 1993

Glenda welcomed Nancy and me to our

first monthly meeting “little rose show” (Grand Prix) in the mid 90's, complimenting our small, un-groomed entries, and giving us encouraging pointers and a warm invitation for entering the next show, which we did! As we have since worked together with her, side by side, she has been a true friend, an exemplary ro-sarian, and a means for our continually finding enjoyment and pleasures from the gifts of roses.

— Sam and Nancy Jones

One of my most distinct memories of Glenda was several years ago at a rose show. Glenda and her children and grand-children – each one carrying one of her designs – came into the show with Glenda giving directions for the placement of each design. Several were big winners that year. She always went the extra mile to make sure the event – no matter what it was – would be a success.

— Anne Owen

To Glenda By: Kent Campbell Tenarky District Director

Glenda Whitaker was a very special person. My contacts with her during my years as an active member and later officer of the Tenarky District were indeed memorable. She, and of course her Robert, were truly “giving” people. In fact, I don't think the word “no” was in their vocabulary. To judge, to speak at a meeting, to answer questions, to hold local, district, or national offices was part of their everyday lives. There is a list of honors they have received for their service and numerous substantial gifts, but it is far too lengthy to enumerate in this short essay.

From Glenda I learned how to write a show arrangement schedule, and she served for years as the district arrangement judge chairperson. Even in some of the darkest days of her illness, she was attending local, district, and even national meetings, and serving as National Prizes and Awards chair.

Yes, she was a paragon of strength, dedication, giving, kindness, and goodness. If ever one individual befitted the words of William Cullen Bryant's great poetic masterpiece, *Thanatopsis*, Glenda was certainly one. Bryant speaks about “communing with the world of nature's beauty”, and in the final stanza speaks of death as a simple passage and suggests that one “approach their grave as if wrapping the drapery of their couch about themselves, and lying down to pleasant dreams.”

Defusing Misconceptions About Thrips

By: Dr. Raymond Cloyd, Associate Professor, Kansas State University



This article has been developed in response to a number of misconceptions and inaccuracies that have been promoted associated with thrips management on roses. As such, I wanted to address these inaccuracies and present the appropriate information. Below are five misconceptions and then the correct information.

1. Systemic insecticides will kill thrips in the soil and may be toxic to thrips feeding on plant leaves. No! Studies have shown that systemic insecticides such as imidacloprid (Merit) have no activity on thrips pupae, which typically reside in the soil. The pupae stage is a non-feeding stage that is very tolerant or immune to most insecticides commonly applied to the soil. Furthermore, most insecticides are not even labeled for drench applications to the soil for “control” of thrips pupae. One study demonstrated that imidacloprid applications to growing medium killed few thrips pupae (20 to 51% mortality), which was presumed to be due to minimal contact with the insecticide and the fact that the pupae stage is not affected by insecticides.

Although thrips have piercing-sucking mouthparts, they tend to puncture holes in the cell walls of leaf tissue using a single stylet in the mandible, and then insert a set of paired stylets, which are then used to withdraw plant fluids. As a result, they feed on many food types within plants. Since thrips are not primarily feeding in the phloem sieve tubes, they are less likely to be negatively affected by systemic insecticides during feeding because they may not ingest a lethal concentration of the active ingredient.

2. Diazinon is a systemic insecticide. No! Diazinon is an organophosphate insecticide that works primarily by contact and stomach-poison activity only. It is not a systemic insecticide. Diazinon has been almost totally removed from the homeowner market.

3. Conserve is a biological control. No! Biological control refers to the use of natural enemies such as parasitoids (parasitic wasps), predators, and beneficial nematodes. The active ingredient in Conserve is spinosad, which is derived from a microorganism or a species of Actinomycete bacteria, *Saccharopolyspora spinosa*, that when fermented creates metabolites called spinosyns; two are biologically active compounds responsible for the insecticidal properties—spinosyns A and D.

4. Conserve kills mites. No! Spinosad is generally not effective in controlling mites although control may be rate-dependent. The label states “Control of spider mites with Conserve SC in certain research trials has been variable. The variability between these evaluations is not well understood but may be due to late application timing when mite populations and webbing were severe, poor spray coverage of both the upper and lower leaf surfaces or interaction of the leaf surface with residues of Conserve SC.”

Furthermore, the addition of a nonionic spray adjuvant may enhance control of spider mites. Studies have shown that spinosad has no activity on spider mites. The miticidal activity of spinosad may be associated with the adjuvants (e.g. Dyne-Amic) used. As such, any activity on mites may occur when an adjuvant is combined with spinosad, which may result in synergism (enhancement in “control” when two materials are mixed together).

5. Molasses and/or brown sugar attract thrips from blooms and encourage them to eat or come in contact with the insecticide. No! It has been proposed for many years that mixing a sugar such as white or brown sugar, or a soft drink (e.g. Mountain Dew) with a contact insecticide (in the spray solution) enhances efficacy of the spray application against thrips. In fact, it has been stated that molasses and brown sugar will act as a surfactant or attract thrips from flowers and encourage them to consume or come into contact with insecticides. Well, what are the components of white and brown sugar? White sugar is pure sucrose derived from either tropical sugar beet or sugar cane. In contrast,

there are two types of brown sugar: free-flowing and sticky. Both types are obtained by adding syrup such as molasses to purified or refined sugar. However, it is difficult to assess how and why a plant-feeding insect such as thrips would be attracted to any type of sugar, particularly if it doesn’t provide any essential nutrients (proteins and amino acids) for development and reproduction. Furthermore, there have been minimal quantitative studies designed to verify the actual benefits of using sugar or soft drinks with contact insecticides to enhance efficacy against thrips.

In one of our experiments, the addition of Mountain Dew, which contains 31 g of sugar (as high fructose corn syrup) per 20 fl oz, at the rate of 12 fl oz/50 gallons failed to enhance the efficacy of any of the treatments (including Conserve) in controlling thrips. For more information regarding this study refer to the following article: Cloyd, R. A. February 2009. Does dew do it? *GrowerTalks* 72(10): 76-79.

If thrips are noticeable then it may be prudent (and necessary) to apply an insecticide such as 1) potassium salts of fatty acids (Insecticidal Soap), 2) spinosad (Conserve), or 3) acephate (Orthene). Be sure to rotate insecticides with different modes of action in order to avoid the potential for resistance.

In conclusion, when presenting information pertaining to management of insect and mite pests of roses it is imperative to make sure the information is accurate even if this involves double-checking the original sources to make sure they are correct. This will avoid anyone making a mistake when dealing with insect and mite pests in the rose garden.

Editor’s Note: Readers, please tell us your experiences, successes, and remedies for thrips.

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NASHVILLE ROSE LEAF, JUNE 2009

June Rose Tips

You can submit your favorite rose tips to the editor: jim_harding@gspnet.com

Late May and early June is when spider mites began to harm rose bushes as the weather becomes warmer. When temperatures reach 90 dF, the spider mites reproduce at fantastically rapid rates and can take over a bush in a couple of weeks. The indicator of spider mite damage is a yellowing or "gray-greening" of the leaves on the rose bush. With a keen eye the mites can be spotted on the undersides of leaves and in severe cases a small webbing can be observed. The best preventive thing to do is to spray with high water pressure the underside of all leaves knocking the mites off the bushes. If the mites are a large problem, repeat the high pressure spray again in 4 to 5 days. The damage from mites is often confused with black spot as both cause a leaf yellowing and can lead to complete defoliation of the bush. Spider mites seem to be more prevalent on miniatures where the leaves are more dense and on hybrid teas with heavy/dense leaf structures.

— Ray Hunter, NRS Member

With the advent of warm weather approaching, the scourge of spider mites will come calling. Since Merit is an excellent chemical, and spider mites make their entry from the soil, it would be well to saturate the ground at the base of the plant (trunk area) with a generous soaking of Merit to combat these destructive critters. Adding this procedure to the regular spraying of foliage really works and the rosarian should give it a try.

— Ted Mills, ARS Master Rosarian

(The McCartney Rose cont'd from Page 1)

As "First Lady" of the American Rose Society during and after her husband Bob's tenure as ARS President, Glenda inspired countless people to "fall in love" with roses from Nashville, nationwide, and beyond. ARS gave Glenda's name to a national Membership Award honoring exceptional membership efforts by rose societies and individuals. Perhaps we should take another look at Glenda's garden inspiration, *The McCartney Rose*.

A strong, sweet fragrance is often the first attraction mentioned, among others, by those who claim as their favorite *The McCartney Rose* from the French hybridizer, Alan Meiland. Next comes its clear, pink color, then its profusion of steady blooms, its bush size, vigor, and last but not most important, its disease resistance. This rose must have been one that Glenda and Bob had in mind when they established the Whitaker District Rose Show Award for four pink or pink-blend, hybrid tea roses of a different variety. Here are a few comments to consider whether this rose might become your favorite too:

• "When my *McCartney Rose* blooms, I can't walk by without taking a deep sniff! I bought my rose as a bare root and it really started taking off by the 3rd year." (Heather, Fairfax, VA)

• "This rose is incredible! I wish I had a
NASHVILLE ROSE LEAF, JUNE 2009

camera to send a picture. Today, May 4, it is covered with about fifty large blooms. In previous years, it has continued to bloom like this until fall. The fragrance is amazing. It is the most disease resistant of all of my roses." (Jayceedee from Conway, SC)

• "22 international awards including four gold medals! Superior fragrance, and one of the strongest. This rose is very healthy and grows to 7 feet here in the south." (Taylor from Plano, Texas)

• "The most "Perfect" rose I have ever grown. Totally disease-resistant, with a quality bloom, and incredible fragrance. I grow this rose every year, planted in containers on my patio. It is absolutely gorgeous. A must have for any rosarian." (Patrick in New Jersey)

The positive comments go on and on, like its European Gold Medal and Fragrance awards (Geneva, Paris, LeRoeix, and Monza, Bagatelle, Madrid, Belfast, and Durbanville, 1988-2003). It would be interesting to see whether Nashville gardens are suited to this rose as Florida, Virginia, or New Jersey, but if it's Glenda's garden favorite, "it's worth a try." If you are growing this rose, let us hear from you!

If you want to order this rose yourself, try Edmunds' Roses, or locally at Bates Nursery Nashville, TN or S & W Greenhouse Whitehouse, TN. This rose will be available in the 2010 NRS fortuniana rose sale.

Contributions

The Nashville Rose Society would like to recognize the following contributions made in memory or honor of NRS members and family:

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THE NASHVILLE ROSE LEAF

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A Rose Lover's Calendar

NRS, Tenarky, & ARS Coming Events

JUNE

- 2 NRS Meeting at Cheekwood
6:00-6:45 pm Beginner Program - Sam Jones - Summer Care of Roses
7:00 pm Bill Anderson - MTSU Plant & Soil Science Dept.
NRS Grand Prix I - For info contact Dillard Lester at d-lester@comcast.net
- The Grooming Room opens at 5:30 pm - Judging begins at 7:00 pm
- 6 Huntsville-Twickenham Rose Society Mini Rose Show
Information Contact: William Chappell at 256-880-3773 or
greenmntroses@comcast.net
- 7 Louisville Rose Society Garden Tour
Information contact: Janet Miller at 502-533-4849 or jlm1219@aol.com
- 18-24 Spring National Convention & Rose Show - 15th World Rose Federation
Convention - Vancouver, BC - Information Contact: Sarah Lewis,
CMP, CMM at sarah@seatoskymeetings.com
<http://www.worldrose-vancouver2009.com/>

JULY

- 7 NRS Meeting at Cheekwood
6:00-6:45 pm Beginner Program - Charles Lott - Watering & Watering
Systems
7:00 pm Martin Stone - Western Kentucky University - Josephine (Rose)
Bonaparte Gardens

Details & other event news available at
www.nashvillerosesociety.com

Contributions

Nashville Rose Society is a 501c-3 organization and all contributions to the society are tax-deductible. Contributions may be made as memorials or to honor some person, group or occasion. Checks for contributions should be made payable to Nashville

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Nashville Rose Society Membership

We are a non-profit organization serving the middle Tennessee area to educate persons on growing and exhibiting roses. Membership is open to everyone who supports the objectives of the organization. Annual dues of \$20.00 includes a subscription to The Nashville Rose Leaf, the official newsletter of the society. To join, send a check payable to Nashville Rose Society to:

Marty Reich, 5020 Dovecote Dr.,
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857 Curtiswood Lane
Nashville, TN 37204
615-292-2375

Richard T. Byrd
7961 Hwy. 100
Nashville, TN 37221-4119
615-969-8899

Take time to introduce yourself
to a new member and then
each of you will have a
new rose friend!

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*Indicates ARS Master Rosarian

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A Tribute To A Virtuous Mother

By Mary Margaret Stanford

A virtuous woman who can find? Her worth is far greater than silver and gold. She was loved by her husband of 48 years. Her children rise and call her “blessed”. She awakes early while the dew is still on the roses and quiets her soul as she meanders along the pebbled pathway of her beautiful, stonewalled rose garden. She inspects each specimen, pruning in hopes of rejuvenation, so in Spring her roses will yield abundant new blossoms. Carrying a song in her heart, she courageously keeps on doing what she can to make a difference. She tires easily and stops to sit for a spell, thanking God for His blessings knowing all will be well.

As she drinks in all God’s beauty feeling the sun upon her face, a gentle breeze reminds her God is with her even to this day. She reflects on all the great times spent in the Whitaker garden with family and rose friends having picnics and fun gatherings. She returns to clipping roses carefully placing them in her bloom saver and slowly makes her way to her potting room again. Her mission was to create a lovely arrangement for someone in need, but lo and behold, the Whitaker phone rings, not once but twice stopping everything! It’s two of her sisters, Rosemary and Lyndell, calling to check on her, which they did so well. Mom’s family was close and treasured each other. What

a wonderful heritage we received from our mother. Now evening has come and her body has grown tired, she eases into bed and begins reading her Bible. Its pages are worn and tattered from years of studying for she loved learning and knowing God’s



Glenda Jordan, Glenda Whitaker,
Lee Whitaker, and Mary Margaret Stanford

promises. The phone interrupts her meditation, but she doesn’t mind. It’s her loving son, Lee, calling from Knoxville to say “I love you, mom.” Always caring and doing whatever his family could, visiting Mom weekends to share their love. Lee’s sweet wife, Heidee, could always be counted on to send a smile to mom’s face with her care packages and charm!

Mom’s grandchildren, always playful and fun, surrounded her often with laughter and hugs. She kept a cheerful disposition, continuing to contribute by writing rose articles and consulting. Devoted to God first, then family and friends, she gave

generously of her time, talents and energy. She enjoyed her active involvement with her love of roses, as exhibitor, judge and consulting Rosarian. Winner of multiple awards and ARS Silver Honor Medalist, she became a valued member of the American and Nashville Rose Societies. She always gave 100% in all she touched by co-chairing National Conventions, arranging roses, and such. Being named “The First Lady” was quite an honor and she showed her gracious spirit throughout that time.

It’s a blessing indeed to have had parents such as Bob & Glenda, whose love and talents were simply endless. As mom’s illness wore on, she needed much love and care. Her daughters, Glenda and Mary, stayed close by her side, supporting and comforting her in the hardest of times. What a blessing, what an honor to return the favor of serving a Virtuous Woman, a mother of splendor. And upon that day when she got to see Jesus, with His outstretched arms, we exclaimed our love and admiration. “Mom, We Love You So Much! You’re the best Mother in the world, but we’ll see you soon in Heaven above!” Although our parents won’t be with us, their Spirit of love will be among us in the rose garden they created together as Whit & Nicole exchange their vows on Memorial Day, and placing Mother’s wedding band on Nicole’s hand.

Photo courtesy of Charles Lott