



World Rose News

NEWSLETTER of the WORLD FEDERATION of ROSE SOCIETIES

Outstanding Osaka ! World Rose Convention - A Fantastic Success

Delegates arriving in Osaka had no idea of the marvelous seven days ahead of them starting off with a spectacular "WFRS Opening Ceremonies" held in the main auditorium of Osaka International House and attended by Her Imperial Highness The Princess Yohko of Mikasa, the 23 year old daughter of the beloved Princess Nobuko, Patron of the Japan Rose Society. The atmosphere in the hall was filled with excitement as the Mayor Junichi Seki conducted the Princess Yohko to her special podium on stage amid a roar of loud applause with hundreds of cameras lights flashing.

Immediately Mayor Seki addressed the assembled delegates with a wonderful speech in English followed by Dr. Nagata on behalf of the Japan Rose Society who also delivered a short address in Japanese inviting the Princess Yohko to welcome the delegates with a message from the Princess Nobuko.

Then the WFRS President, Dr. Tommy Cairns, delivered his message to the delegates with a brief account of the rich history of the City of Osaka quickly followed by a number of award presentations. As is customary, the announcement of the roses elected to the WFRS Hall of Fame were declared, 'Pierre de Ronsard' and 'Elina, with commissioned watercolors presented to both the hybridizers. In addition watercolors were also given to Mayor Seki and Dr. Nagata as mementos of this historical occasion. Then in a surprise break with tradition the WFRS President proceeded to award honours to key members

of the Osaka Convention Organizing Committee: Mayor Seki and Mrs. Marufuku both received the World Rose Award, Prof. Akira Ogawa the Silver Medal and Dr. Takeo Nagata the Gold Medal. Dr. Cairns then read an additional honours citation bestowing upon Peter Beales the WFRS Gold Medal. The final medal to be awarded, the Della Balfour International Rose Friendship Medal" was conferred upon a delighted Richard Balfour. At this point in the proceedings the pomp and circumstance has risen to all time high with an appreciative audience clamoring for more. And little did they realized that more was yet to come!

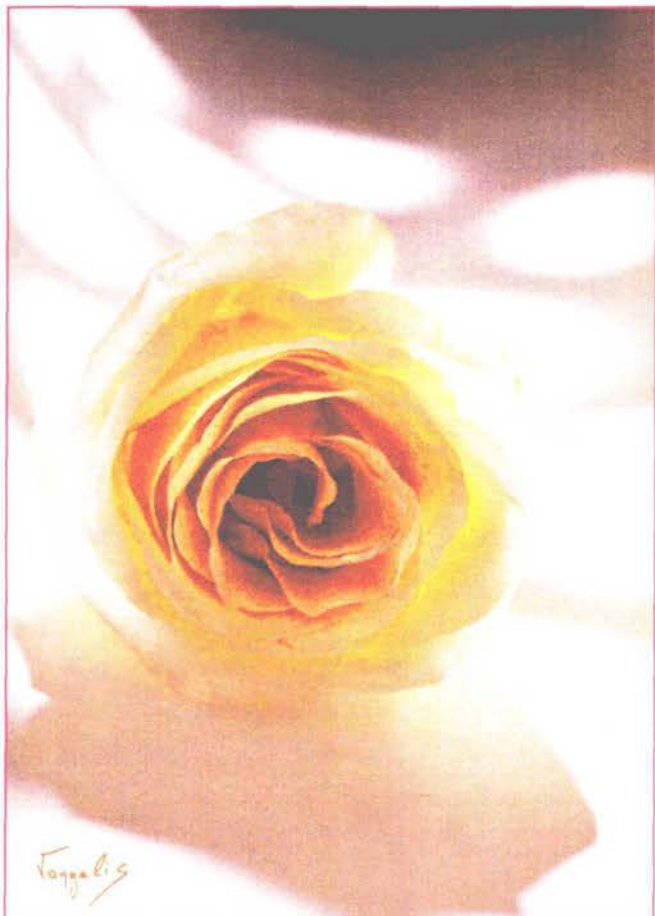
As a large draped object was rolled onto center stage, Dr. Cairns then began to relate a brief life history of a painter named Vangelis Andriotakis, born in 1953 in Greece, on the island of Crete.

"Vangelis was the first son into a family consisting of four siblings, 40 cousins and a multitude of aunts and uncles. Since 1972, Vangelis now resides and works in the United States. However, beginning in 1995 he started to create what is destined to be the most prolific collection of floral works of art on canvas the art world has ever seen.

Vangelis, when told of the beautiful hybrid tea rose named for HIH Princess Nobuko in Glasgow three years ago, eagerly wished to capture its beauty on canvas for formal presentation here today in Osaka. The members of the WFRS have the greatest affection for the Patron of Japan Rose Society, HIH Princess Nobuko.

On behalf of the WFRS, it is my high honor and distinct pleasure to present to your HIH Princess Yohko this oil painting by Vangelis of the Scottish bred rose 'Princess Nobuko'. Please convey to your mother our appreciation of her patronage of the rose in Japan and the rest of the world."

This presentation brought the crowd to its feet with applause and the enthralled audience retired for lunch in the foyer.



"The Princess Nobuko Rose"
[Oil on canvas, approx. 4 x 6 feet]

World Rose News

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WORLD FEDERATION OF ROSE SOCIETIES

Founded 1968

The World Federation of Rose Societies is registered in the United Kingdom as a company limited by guarantee and as a charity under the number 1063582. The objectives of the Society, as stated in the constitution, are:

- To encourage and facilitate the interchange of information and knowledge of the rose between national rose societies.
- To coordinate the holding of international conventions and exhibitions.
- To encourage, and where appropriate, sponsor research into problems concerning the rose.
- To establish common standards for judging new rose seedlings.
- To establish a uniform system of rose classification.
- To grant international honors and/or awards.
- To encourage and advance international cooperation on all other matters concerning the rose.

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FROM THE EDITOR

Opening Remarks at 14th World Rose Convention

Your Imperial Highness Princess Yohko of Misaka
Mayor Seki, WFRS President Emeritus Richard Balfour, Past WFRS Presidents,
Distinguished Guests, Delegates, Ladies & Gentlemen
Good Morning and Welcome to the 14th World Rose Convention!

I am delighted to see so many different countries represented here today. This is truly a magnificent gathering of rosarians from around the world and in the name of the World Federation of Rose Societies and our hosts, the Japan Rose Society, the Osaka City Government, and the Osaka Parks Department, I bid you all a warm Welcome!

In particular, I should like to accord a special recognition to the large delegations from Romania, South Africa, Uruguay, New Zealand, Australia, as well as the many members of the Japan Rose Society here in attendance. Thank you all for attending this unique and very special rose event. Greetings to all convention delegates and visitors from over 25 different Nations, particularly those of you who have traveled a long way to be here. I am sure any travel fatigue you may experience will be completely washed away by the warm welcome here in Osaka City.

Let me tell you about this marvelous city of Osaka! In 645 AD, Osaka was the stage for an event of great historical significance. The Emperor Kotoku left Asuka, until then the traditional capital-city of ancient Japan and moved the capital to now modern-day Osaka (called Naniwa in those days), in order to oppose the huge pressure of the Sui and Tang Empires. He quickly consolidated power and built the ancient capital city of Osaka.

The feudal castle town of Osaka flourished in commerce. However, it was burned to the ground in the Osaka Winter and Summer Battles of 1614 and 1615 but was quickly reborn from the ashes of war into an economic hub and became known as the "Kitchen of Japan". Osaka was destined to become the largest economic city in Japan.

During the late 19th century, Osaka was to go through a transformation from a trade and financial economic base to rapid development as a mainly industrial region. At the end of the 19th century, so much smoke spewed from factory smokestacks into the sky that Osaka was then called the "Smoky City". Osaka was nicknamed the "Manchester of the Orient". In the 21st century, Osaka has once again come to an age when it has taken its next leap forward as "a city of people contributing to the world"- truly an "Osakan Renaissance" becoming the gateway to trade with Japan. In the words of Mayor Seki, "to help Osaka City become a city full of vitality and energy, a city that brings creative people together". Osaka is a most beautiful part of this lovely country and the citizens are very proud of their wonderful city. I am also sure that by the time you leave here, you too will wish to return as often as possible.

It is of Japan that I now wish to speak about today as we create yet another historical and significant landmark in the rose world. Throughout history the Japanese people have always recognized the need for a close harmony with Nature. Indeed Japan and Nature are synonymous. Since the earliest times, the creative artists of Japan have manifested a keen interest in the beauty of flowers and is has played an important role in their daily lives and their religious beliefs.

Therefore, it was natural that this 14th World Rose Convention take place here in Osaka to celebrate this unique mantle of Nature encompassing not only their love of roses but their gardens, their design and most of all providing a public expression of their deep seated beliefs of the sacredness of Nature and its enjoyment.

This rose journey to Osaka has been a long and difficult one, and the route taken was not the shortest! But we all are attending the first ever World Rose Convention in Japan! I am very impressed with the dedication and planning of the members of the Organizing Committee, under the capable leadership of Dr. Takeo Nagata, who has worked so long and hard to bring this historic event to Japan. They are to be congratulated on their success on opening a rose window on Japan to the world.

I hope that every delegate can take with them from this World Rose Convention many great memories to recollect what a great event this was and relive many times over the pleasant days we have ahead of us. To Mayor Seki, Dr. Nagata, Prof. Ogawa and Mrs. Marufuku of the Organizing Committee, may I offer our sincere thanks.

May your days ahead of this 14th World Rose Convention be filled with the wonders of this beautiful and magical country.

Thank you.

DR. TOMMY CAIRNS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Summer of 2006

Dr. Gerald Meylan
WFRS President 2006-2009

My Dear Friends,

"Melody of Oriental Roses" has recently closed its doors with so many wonderful memories still lingering on in our minds.

I would like to take this opportunity, as your new president, to express my sincere thanks to Dr Takeo Nagata and Dr Akira Ogawa, as well as their whole team for the excellent organization of the 14th World Rose Convention. We particularly appreciated the sense of hospitality and warm welcome offered to us by the Japanese people, including their concern for the slightest detail. Many of us, accompanied by members of the Japan Rose Society, had the joy of discovering a new country, far away from our own, full of contrasts and oriental charm. The different committees were able to carry out their work most efficiently under excellent conditions. The final program of lectures was impressive and most interesting. The opening ceremony, welcome reception and farewell dinner were wonderful moments which we will all cherish for a long time to come, when we were united in the name of and for the rose.

On this occasion, I would like to thank the City of Osaka and especially its Mayor, Dr Junichi Seki, for their unconditional support in the carrying out of this convention, also the President of the Japan Rose Society, Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, and all the members for their voluntary help.

I wish to address my warmest thanks to the outgoing Executive Committee and more particularly to our immediate past president, Dr Tommy Cairns, for their work as a whole accomplished over the past three years.

A new chapter in the great book of the WFRS is about to be written. I look forward to doing this with your backing, and that of the members of the Executive Committee. This new chapter will lead us up to 2009 for the next world convention in Vancouver. In the meantime, several regional and national conventions will take place, giving us the ideal opportunity of getting together once again. With the collaboration of the vice presidents, I promise to keep you well informed of the different activities linked to the world of roses which will be organized throughout the world.

On a more personal level, I wish to communicate regularly with you all and to do this, I intend writing a message every two months on the WFRS website. Now is the time to start using modern technologies at our disposal! I have several plans which I would like to develop further and as the next Executive Committee will be held in Orléans in September of this year, I will keep you up to date with our progress.

Finally, I would like it to be made known that I am always at the disposal of the entire national federations for any advice or support they may require in the future or maybe even a visit on the occasion of a meeting. So please do not hesitate to contact me at my e-mail address whenever you need to (gerald.meylan@freesurf.ch).

Many thanks once again to you all for the confidence you have placed in me.



Dr. Meylan presents the "WFRS Award of Garden Excellence" at the International Rose Trials at The Hague in the presence of Mrs. Komachien, wife of the Japanese Ambassador to The Netherlands



At the 50th Anniversary of the Ramon Ortiz Rosaleda, Madrid during the International Rose Trials Dr. Meylan presented the garden with the "WFRS Award of Garden Excellence"

Goodbye to All That

What a title for an article you might say. 'All That' has been my pleasure over the past 15 years as Secretary to the World Federation of Rose Societies. At the World Rose Convention in Belfast in 1991 I was asked if I would be willing to take over from Robert Begg (Argentina) as Secretary to the WFRS. I had no thoughts in my head of such an appointment so was surprised and flattered that my name had been put forward. I would explain that I was involved in a very small way with the very first meeting in London in 1968 so had been interested in the Federation's progress since that time. With this background I, without hesitation, accepted the post of Secretary. Since then I have seen the Federation's membership increase to 36 National Societies throughout the world.

During the 15 years I have been privileged to have as my Presidents David Ruston (Australia), Ethel Freeman (Canada), Helga Bricet (Italy), Ken Grapes (UK) and Tommy Cairns (USA). In my capacity as Secretary I have attended World Rose Conventions in Christchurch, New Zealand, The Benelux Countries of Luxembourg, The Netherlands and Belgium, Houston (USA), Glasgow (United Kingdom) and Osaka Japan. Having worked for The Royal National Rose Society for many years there were many whose names I knew, but had never met. The Conventions gave me the opportunity to put faces to names and to look forward to meeting them again. Having established a personal contact with delegates to Conventions, my job became even more of a pleasure – like corresponding with friends rather than officials.

I have seen much progress since 1991. The Federation's standing as a Registered Company and Registered Charity, the publication of the 'Rose Directory', the WFRS Website, the Federation's magazine 'World Rose News' brought up to date with articles and colour photographs, the collection of data on the locations of rare and endangered roses throughout the world for inclusion on the website, the introduction of the Plaque of Garden Excellence and Literary Award and recently the new WFRS Heritage Roses Committee – much has been achieved. I truly feel that the World Federation is at last receiving the credibility it deserves.

Perhaps, more importantly, the WFRS is about friendships and fun. Our Conventions bring together old friends and introduce new ones and I have felt very much a part of these happy reunions. However, like a mother with her children I knew it would be hard to let go altogether and I am happy that I will still be involved as the Federation's Treasurer and to working with the new President, Gérald Meylan.

I thank each and every one of you for your support and help over the years.

Jill Bennell

Jill Bennell Awarded The Dean Hole Medal

Dear Jill:

It is with the greatest pleasure I write to let you know that the RNRS Board of Trustees, by unanimous resolution, has awarded you the Society's highest honor, the Dean Hole Medal. This is in recognition of your tireless support of the RNRS not only during the many years of your employment but up to the present time, and also for the invaluable service you have given to "The Rose" worldwide in your capacity as Secretary of the World Federation of Rose Societies.

On behalf of the Trustees I would very much like to present this award to you at our Annual general meeting, 2 pm on Saturday, 3rd June 2006. Perhaps you would be kind enough to let me know if this arrangement is acceptable.

In the meantime please accept our warmest congratulations, and on a personal level I would like you to know I feel this is a richly deserved honour which I am delighted has been given to you during my Presidency.

Yours sincerely

Ann Bird
President, Royal National Rose Society



Jill shares a moment with Peter Beales, Past President of the RNRS and Bernd Weigel, President of the German Rose Society at the Tokyo Roses & Gardening Show, Seibu Dome

GREETINGS FROM THE MAYOR OF OSAKA



THE CITY OF OSAKA
CITY HALL
OSAKA, JAPAN

June 19, 2006

Dr. Tommy Cairns
Former President
World Federation of Rose Societies

Dear Dr. Cairns,

Thank you very much for your kind letter. It was indeed a great privilege for us in Osaka to be able to host the World Rose Convention 2006, which concluded on May 17. It would not have been such a success were it not for the generous support and guidance we received from you and many others.

Memories of the convention are still vivid in my mind, particularly the moment when I received, unexpectedly, an award at the Closing Ceremony. How did you find the Welcome Reception and Farewell Dinner? I hope you enjoyed them. I also wish to thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to share your rich knowledge of the rose with the citizens on May 16. Official duties prevented me from attending your lecture – it was most disappointing, but I am confident that your lecture helped foster the love of the rose in the heart of those fortunate to participate. It was a pity that we did not have more time to talk with each other.

Please accept my personal congratulations for concluding your term as WFRS President with great success. You demonstrated outstanding leadership in organizing the 2006 Convention, and we are grateful for all the personal support and assistance you gave us in the preparations for the convention and during it. I appreciate your friendship very much and hope that there will be an opportunity for us to meet again.

I would like to extend to you my sincerest wishes for the further success of the World Federation of Rose Societies, and for your personal good health, happiness, and prosperity.

Sincerely yours,

Junichi Seki, MD, PhD
Mayor

GREETINGS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF 14TH WORLD ROSE CONVENTION



Organizing Structure Secretariat
The World Rose Convention 2006 in Osaka
Abeno Medix 12F, Asahimachi 1-chome 2-7-1206-2
Abeno-ku, Osaka 545-0051
JAPAN

Friday, 2nd June 2006

Dr. Thomas Cairns
Immediate Past President
World Federation of Rose Societies
3053 Laurel Canyon Boulevard
Studio City, California 91604
USA

Dear Dr. Cairns

I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for letting us host the World Rose Convention in Osaka and the convention was a great success without experiencing any accidents throughout the convention week. Please accept my sincere appreciation for a great deal of support and advice you have given to me from the beginning of the preparation stage of the Osaka convention until its completion.

At the public lecture for Osaka residents held to commemorate the Osaka convention, many participants have given many positive comments such as the lecture was wonderful and it was very meaningful. I would like to thank you again for giving such a great opportunity to Osaka residents.

In the end we hosted just under 700 participants however as a convention organiser, I was overwhelmed with gratitude at the farewell dinner and at the end of the post convention tour when I heard participants saying that the Osaka convention was one of the most memorable one.

I was delighted and honored to receive the World Rose Award. It was certainly something that I have never expected. I would also like to thank you again for the lovely diamond rose brooch. It will continue to shine radiantly forever with my great memories of hosting the 14th of the World Rose Convention 2006 in Osaka under your guidance.

I imagine that you are back in your busy life by now. Please take care of your health and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

Kind Regards

Atsuko Marufuku
Director

REFLECTIONS OF JAPAN

Osaka 2006 - A GREAT SUCCESS!

Dr. eng. Stefan Wagner,
President of Association of Rose Friends of Romania
WFRS Vice-President for Europe

I have to recognize, that at the Houston Convention, in 2000, when Japan was designated to organize the 2006 Convention, I felt a great satisfaction, because I was one who wanted this since 1994, because in 30 years there was no Convention in Asia.

Many delegations were skeptical in this respect, saying that Japan is too expensive and we know that according to international statistics, Osaka and Tokyo are on the first two places as being expensive. In despite of this fact about 360 delegates from abroad came to Japan and they were not disappointed in no way, because the organizers did a great job, they were very friendly, punctual, assuring smooth transports and transfers, very good accommodation and at last but not least a good Japanese and continental *cuisine*. Many of our delegates, including myself, enjoyed Japanese food and we did a series of diligences to eat with *waribashi* (sticks)! Sincere congratulations for the Japanese Rose Society for all of this!



Dr. Stefan Wagner with the new WFRS President,
Gerald Meylan and Mr. Cs. Verzar

The 22 lectures were at a high level, the audience was numerous and interested, the organizing of the session was excellent. Of course many of us were interested in the lectures about the scent of roses, native species from the East, companion plant for roses etc, but the most interesting was for me the story about the blue roses. This step in the breeding will open a new wave toward to obtain new colours and today we don't know yet how many surprises could happen in the next 10-20 years! Concerning lectures I am happy to had my 3th lecture during my activity in the WFRS, presenting aspects of rose gardens and breeding of novelties in Romania.

The tours and short excursions during the Convention were very well chosen, so we could see roses (not everywhere) and many sites of touristic interest. The rose-gardens we visited were in an excellent caring and the flowers were beautiful, as good and nice as in New Zealand. Many, quite old varieties, as 'Carina', 'Josephine Bruce', 'Mister Lincoln' and others, were in an excellent condition having very large flowers, which I never had seen in Romania. Of course, the climate helped a lot, but a good caring was also contributing to this. A great "show" was for us the climbing varieties being trained horizontally, giving very large blooms as were 'Frau Karl Druschki' (1901), 'Super Star' and many others. The exhibitions at Osaka and

the Fair in Tokyo, the Keisei Garden and many others were excellent with thousand of flowers in an very good quality, so we could see the skilfulness of Japanese gardeners and the well-known flower-arranging skills of the designer.

As I said at the closing ceremony this was the most beautiful convention I ever participated and we have to congratulate the organizers for that. But for the future there is no necessary a competition; each organizing country should present his own particularities in growing roses combined with elements of culture, art and history and this is sufficient.

Now, when the Osaka 2006 is over, we can say that it was a great event and even if it was not cheap, we said that for the money we had spent we got very much and so we consider that it was not too expensive! I am proud that we could be at Osaka in a very numerous group, 20 members, being on places 6-7, in equality with the UK!

We were so much contented and enchanted with our trip to Osaka 2006 that we decided to make a visit to South Africa in autumn 2007, where we could not go in 2002.

Thank you Osaka and Japan for the wonderful memories we collected! Look out Vancouver, because in 2009 a larger group of rosarians from Romania will attend the Convention!

MELODY OF ORIENTAL ROSES

Sheenagh Harris

Konichiwa and Domo!

What a convention – fun, flora, food and friendships, maybe fish, futons and Fukuyama too! The 24 South Africans who traveled to Japan for the 14th World Rose Convention are back home, full of admiration for the Japanese Rosarians who hosted this outstanding and most memorable Convention. Much of the FUN was instigated by Taeko and Mie of the Jack Rabbit travel agent who not only had the delegates making after dinner speeches but doing umbrella acrobatics on stage, singing songs on the bus and even learning to speak Japanese and all this after well organised days visiting shrines, temples and roses where our every need was catered for.

The thoughts that come to mind are kind and exceptionally polite people; spotlessly clean cities of beautiful buildings; interesting and meticulously prepared food; palatial hotels with interesting ablutions and much, much more. The flora may not all have been in full bloom but what we saw was of such a high standard with those large buds held upright by strong stems with the biggest shiny leaves. The peonies, rhododendrons and azaleas helped to make up for any lack of colour and what about the kengai, bonsai and ikebana?

We didn't only go to see the Country, enjoy good roses and hear informative lectures but it was also a time of renewing old friendships from the 36 member countries across the world and making new – there is nothing better than the mutual love of roses to bring people from all walks of life together. It was particularly good to see eminent rosarians such as Dick Balfour from Britain, who



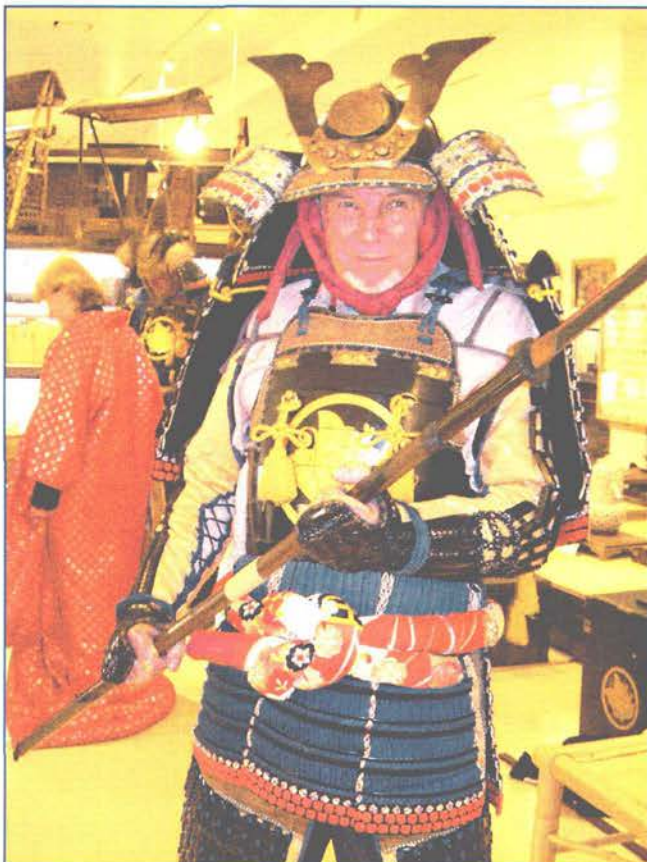
Two new VPs:
Sheenagh Harris (South Africa)
and
Takamasa Tsuga (Far East)

at 90 did not lose an opportunity to dance – even in the Osaka Rose Gardens! Also David Ruston from Australia virtually talking to the old roses like long lost friends with as strong an enthusiasm for the rose as ever before. It was good to see Tommy Cairns looking well after three exceptionally full years as President (and Editor of World News) and to welcome Gerald Meylan to his new role; Jill Bennell who must know more about the workings of the WFRS after 16 years of telling Presidents what they may or may not do; Ethel Freeman who in her quiet way has her finger well and truly on the pulse; Helga Brichet, involved in so much and all in different languages and of course Malcolm Watson our friendly new Secretary and not forgetting Ruth at his side. Just to mention a few.

What an education the food was. Much has been written and said about this important component of our daily lives – raw fish, sushi, cold sticky glutinous rice and green tea come to mind then noodles, sea weed and even vegetables for breakfast and to crown it all, eating with chop sticks! Those lunches in their lacquered boxes, so meticulously prepared were all photographed for the record.

A surprise to us all
The octopus ball
And sushi was quite a delight
Using chop sticks to eat
Was a challenging treat
Each meal could have lasted all night!

IMAGES TO REMEMBER



Samurai Ludwig Taschner
Shogun of South Africa!

JAPAN REFLECTIONS

Jennifer Southern (Bermuda Rose Society)
Sally Madden (President Bermuda Rose Society)
[Read at one of the dinners in Tokyo]

We came to Japan with an open mind
Not quite sure what we would find
It was in May of two thousand and six
As a convention of roses they'd managed to fix.

The roses at first were not out in bloom
We thought 'oh goodness we are two weeks too soon'
A private garden we went to one day
The sight just took our breath away.

All their roses were out in bloom –
They had a gardener to spray and groom.
The public gardens were so well maintained
At many tea ceremonies we were entertained.

To several places we have been –
Wonderful sights that we have seen.
The lunch boxes were a delight to see
On peering in – what could it all be?

The contents not always to our taste
Sadly quite a lot did waste
Chopsticks at first posed quite a problem
But after some practice we mastered them.

To ride a bike must be quite a feat
With umbrella in one hand and three kids on the seat.
Netted golf ranges we have seen so many
Up until March in Bermuda weren't any.

Maybe the first thing that came to mind
Wherever we go the toilet to find.
To fathom it out is quite an art
Not quite sure where we should start

So many buttons we have never seen
Which one to push when we have been?
Press the green and you get a spray
Try another and to flush it may

To push the red you must not do
The bell will bring some help to you!
The disabled ones are the very best.
In some you can even take a rest

As large as my kitchen where I live
To have a warmed seat what would I give?
To travel by train is easy to do
Just find the station you want to get to

Written in English beneath Japanese
You find your way with relative ease.
Our spirits have not been dampened by rain
We just put up our umbrellas again.

The sun was often hidden by fog
As we tramped on through the sog.
You all work so hard, your country so clean
An inspiration it certainly has been.

A long time the memories will stay with us
But we will not miss hours spent in the bus
The welcome and graciousness we have received in Japan
To thank you enough – we don't think we can

So many more things we would like to say
Should bring us back another day.

Three Varieties Elected for 2006

Every three years the Member Countries of the World Federation of Rose Societies (WFRS) vote their favorite rose to be elected to the Hall of Fame. At "Opening Ceremonies" on Friday, May 12th, 2006 in International House, Osaka, Japan, WFRS President, Dr. Tommy Cairns, before an audience of approximately 750 delegates and in the presence of Princess Yohko of Misaka, announced that two modern roses has been elected to the "Hall of Fame". Framed watercolors of the two modern roses by American artist, Louise Estes, were presented to Alain Meilland for the House of Meilland, France and Michael O'Loughlin on behalf of the House of Dickson, Northern Ireland.

'Pierre de Ronsard'

Large Flowered Climber/repeat flowering

MEIviolin (aka Eden, Eden Rose 88)

[('Danse des Sylphes' x 'Handel') x 'Climbing Pink Wonder']

Hybridized by Marie Louise Meilland 1987

This variety was named after a famous 16th century French poet, Pierre de Ronsard, who evoked in his verses the very essence of tenderness and soul. In the English translation of the words of Anne-Sophie Rondeau in the book "The Grand Rose Family": 'Eden Rose', the rose whose every petal is a sonnet, whose every nuance soothes the soul". It is a very vigorous climber beloved for its very pale pink blooms with over a hundred petals, tightly packed in quarter form, but hemmed with a bright pink underline with just a hint of green on the other side. Grown all over the world this variety is the fourth House of Meilland cultivar to win this coveted prize, the others being 'Peace' in 1976, 'Papa Meilland' in 1988, and 'Bonica 82' in 2003. Much noted for its ability to produce massive clusters of very fragrant blooms that tumble freely from the plant to create a splendid display to warm the heart and soul, it is very essence of poetry in motion. Yes, the variety is well named!

About Pierre de Ronsard, The Poet

Ronsard (1524-1585) began life as a page of the court in the service of James V. of Scotland, and had his ample share of excitement and amorous escapades. However, an illness which eventually caused total deafness pointed him in the direction of a less demanding profession, namely a poet and scholar. The French humanists of his day considered him a shining star inspired by classical culture, seeking to reinvent French literature. Many consider his poetry to be musical, sensuous, somewhat pagan, and desperately romantic all at the same time. Patronized by Charles IX and some of Catherine de'Medici's court pageants he wrote many poems towards the end of his life when he loved the much younger lady-in-waiting to Catherine

de' Medici who frankly kept him at arm's length refusing his passion for her. But then sorrow and remorse is often a stable diet for poets. In 1550 Ronsard wrote a lovely poem about roses:

*I send you here a wreath of blossoms blown,
And woven flowers at sunset gathered,
Another dawn had seen them ruined, and shed
Loose leaves upon the grass at random strown.*

*By this, their sure example, be it known,
That all your beauties, now in perfect flower,
Shall fade as these, and wither in an hour,
Flowerlike, and brief of days, as the flower sown.*

*Ah, time is flying, lady--time is flying;
Nay, 'tis not time that flies but we that go,
Who in short space shall be in churchyard lying,
And of our loving parley none shall know,*

*Nor any man consider what we were;
Be therefore kind, my love, whiles thou art fair.*



Watercolor rendition of 'Pierre de Ronsard'
presented to Alain Meilland in Osaka
on behalf of the House of Meilland, France

'Elina'

Hybrid tea/large flowered/repeat flowering

DICjana (aka Peaudouce)

['Nana Mouskouri' x 'Lolita']

Hybridized by Patrick Dickson, Northern Ireland 1983

Perhaps the finest hybrid tea ever created from the talented hands of Patrick Dickson of Northern Ireland, 'Elina' has gained popularity and favor with rose growers from all over the world. Noted for its tolerance to wet weather, it is a vigorous large bush with complimentary dark green foliage. Fragrance is only slight but detectable by aficionados. In 1987 the variety won the Gold Star of the South Pacific at the rose trails in Palmerston North, New Zealand and at the ADR trials in Germany (Anerkannte Deutsche Rose) in Germany.

Patrick Dickson started his successful career in 1957, and introduced many successful varieties such as 'Sea Pearl' in 1964, following soon after with 'Grandpa Dickson' in 1966, 'Red Devil' in 1967 and 'Redgold' also in 1967. This won an All-America Rose Selections (AARS) in 1969. In recent years the House of Dickson have won seven "Roses of the Year": 'Beautiful Britain' (DICfire) in 1983, 'Melody Maker' (Dicqueen) in 1991, 'Gentle Touch' (DIClulu) in 1986, 'Dawn Chorus' (Dicquasar) in 1993, 'Sweet Magic' (DICmagic) in 1987, 'Harvest Fayre' (DICnorth) in 1990, and 'Irish Eyes' (DICwitness) in 2000.



Watercolor rendition of 'Elina' presented to Michael O'Loughlin in Osaka for the House of Dickson, Northern Ireland

Pat Dickson, when informed of this award to his seedling 'Elina', said "It is strange, but when a really outstanding seedling appears in the field - like 'Red Devil', 'Grandpa Dickson' - I can remember exactly where I first saw it; which field it was in and almost down to the exact spot in that field! It wasn't just because of the well-worn path created by so many trips driven by the fear that the wonder and pure beauty of

this gorgeous rose might diminish in some way. In securing its place in the prestigious WFRS Hall of Fame winners, 'Elina' has shown that there has been no diminution of her perfect form, magnificent growth and bountiful production of so many perfect blooms over so many years. I first spotted her in the field in 1979 and just a couple of years later, while it was still under test, our good friend and fellow rosarian the late Paul Pekmez was searching for an outstanding rose to be named 'Elina', who was Secretary of the French Rose Society. So determined was he to have DICjana as it was then known that he sent invitations to his fellow breeders to visit his nurseries and publicly launch it, and at the same time to let me in on his secret! Happily, we were able to agree conditions which allowed him to introduce 'Elina' a year before ourselves. Of course, as you also probably know, it was first known in the UK as 'Peaudouce' (a commercial naming with a nappy company!) but after a number of years the name 'Elina' gradually overtook 'Peaudouce', although in some UK catalogues you will still see the name 'Peaudouce'. I feel extremely fortunate to have produced a rose which performs so well in so many different climates and conditions, and to come across a busy roundabout planted up with this beautiful rose growing in all its glory is, as they say nowadays, "cool". I am delighted that it has been recognized by the WFRS and that it is now sitting in that great Hall of Fame along with so many other beautiful and great roses."

OLD ROSE HALL OF FAME

'Madame Hardy'

Then at "Closing Ceremonies" at the 14th World Rose Convention on May 16th 2006, WFRS President, Dr. Tommy Cairns, announced that 'Madame Hardy' has been elected to the "Old Rose Hall of Fame".

Beloved damask rose of devotees of old garden roses, this charming variety was named by Eugene Hardy in 1832 in honor of his wife. It possess all the charm and elegance a rose can give with its wonderful perfect whiteness and quartered form with a wonderful green pip at the very center of the floret to contrast the delicate 100+ petals starting out a light cream color and maturing to a pure white. The peduncle is covered with feathery pine-scented sepals somewhat suggesting that it is not a true damask. It only blooms once in the early summer, but what a showcase of beauty, serenity, dignity, and presence. Often heralded by the rosarians as the most perfect damask, 'Madame Hardy' has finally gained its rightful place in the Old Garden Rose Hall of Fame joining such popular favorites as 'Mlle Cecil Brunner', 'Gloire de Dijon', 'Old Blush', 'Souvenir de la Malmaison', 'Gruss an Teplitz', and 'Mme Alfred Carriere'.



“Award of Garden Excellence 2006”

In furtherance of the objectives of the Federation and, in particular, to improve the public's knowledge on all matters concerning the rose, the “Award of Garden Excellence” recognises the highest levels of attainment in the field of rose garden development, maintenance and display.

One year before each World Rose Convention, the Secretary circulates to Member Countries and members of the Executive Committee, asking for nominations for the “Award of Garden Excellence”. Evaluation by two independent referees are included. At its meeting during a World Rose Convention, such nominations are evaluated by the WFRS Awards Committee including a short presentation by the individual who nominated the garden or a representative. Gardens, which are granted the award, require the approval of Council. The award consists of an appropriate customized bronze plaque. Furthermore, gardens so honored are encouraged and permitted to use the special logo. In Osaka, the WFRS Awards Committee recommended that eleven gardens be awarded and the Council approved.

Bara Koen, Fukuyama, Japan

In 1946, a plan was drawn up to rebuild the garden. In 1956, citizens planted 1,000 rose bushes in the park. In 2006 there are over 280 cultivars of roses; 5,500 plants.



Centenary Rose Garden, Tamil Nadu, India

This garden was planned in 1996 to commemorate the centenary of the Flower Festival. Over 2,800 cultivars of roses; 20,000 plants



Coughton Court, Alcester, England, UK

Estate of the Throckmorton family for over 500 years. Over 140 cultivars of roses.



Rose Hills, Whittier, California, USA

Established in 1972. AARS accredited public garden for over 25 years, showcasing award-winning AARS roses. Over 300 cultivars of roses; 10,000 plants.



Parc le La Grange, Geneva, Switzerland

The rose garden was built in 1944. In 1947, the first international rose trials took place. Over 360 cultivars of roses; 12,000 plants.



Parc de la Tete d'Or, Lyon, France

Park was created in 1857. In 1931, first international rose trials. The rose garden was inaugurated in 1964. Over 400 cultivars of roses; 35,000 plants.



Figure 6

Ramon Ortiz Rosaleda, Madrid, Spain

The rosaleda de Ramon Ortiz was built and planted in 1956. Over 500 cultivars of roses; 15,000 plants.



Roger's Rose Garden, Hamilton, New Zealand

In 1969, 500 rose bushes were donated for a joint project. The rose garden was completed in 1971. Over 190 cultivars of roses; 4,200 plants.



Utsubo Koen, Osaka, Japan

In 1946 the City planned the rebuilding of the gardens. In 1956, 1,200 rose seedlings were planted by citizens in the rose garden. Over 151 cultivars of roses; 3,200 plants.



Washington Park International Rose Test Garden Portland, USA

The oldest public garden of its kind in the USA, officially designated in 1916. Over 550 cultivars of roses; 7,500 plants.



Westbroekpark, The Hague, Netherlands

The park was created in 1948. The rose garden was created in 1961. Over 325 cultivars of roses; 22,000 plants.



WFRS Honours List Citations at Osaka 2006

Dr. Junichi SEKI (Japan)



World Rose Award

Your total commitment as Mayor of Osaka in hosting the first ever World Rose Convention in the Orient has been outstanding. Throughout the long planning process, you have demonstrated strong dedication and patronage for showcasing your wonderful city to rose growers from all over the world. With a true spirit of hospitality, you have ensured that the City of Osaka has welcomed the rose world with open arms. Your particular attention to the horticultural

excellence of the many rose gardens that surround the city is exceptional. The rose gardens of Osaka have become legends in their own time. Your efforts to create a "people-friendly and dynamic New Osaka" have been heralded as the mark of true leadership as you progress towards a new vision of city reform.

Mrs. Atsuko MARUFUKU (Japan)



World Rose Award

You are most deserving of our appreciation for assuming perhaps the most difficult and demanding task any member of the Osaka Parks Department is asked to perform, that of planning, organizing and implementing a World Rose Convention. With the myriad of difficult tasks and decisions involved, you along with your team members exhibited the essential leadership attributes in administering the convention with absolute precision and passionate dedication. In this international undertaking, you

have excelled with brilliance and dignity worthy of our praise and recognition.

Prof. Akira OGAWA (Japan)



WFRS Silver Medal

Without your personal assistance and diligent perseverance in promoting Osaka as the host city for a World Rose Convention, we would not be here today celebrating the first ever convention in the Orient. You have frequently traveled far and wide to all WFRS regional conventions to quietly inform people about the wonders of Japan and the roses growing throughout the country. Throughout this promotional campaign you have exercised both modesty and humility, qualities rarely found in the modern world.

Luis DESAMERO (USA)



World Rose Award

You are most deserving of our appreciation for assuming perhaps the most difficult and demanding volunteer task any member of your distinguished society is asked to perform, that of planning, organizing and implementing the first World Rose Forum. With the myriad of difficult tasks and decisions involved, you exhibited the essential leadership attributes in administering this unique event with passionate dedication. In this WFRS international undertaking, you have excelled with

brilliance and dignity worthy of our praise and recognition.

Dr. Meena PIMPALAPURE (India)



World Rose Award

Your sustained service to the Indian Rose Federation at its President and later as a Patron is renowned. Moreover, your personal commitment to the World Federation of Rose Societies was reflected in serving several terms as WFRS Vice President for the Near East with honor and dignity. You were responsible for holding the first Asian WFRS Regional Convention in Jaipur and have attended many international rose meetings in the last 10 years.

M.S. VIRARAGHAVAN (India)



World Rose Award

As a founding member of the Indian Rose Federation, you began breeding roses in 1966 specifically for cold resistance and for hot climates which has culminated in commercial success. Along with your wife, Girija, you have edited the Indian Rose Annual for the past 20 years and traveled the world speaking on your life's work in rose breeding. Recently you were honored by the Huntington Botanical Gardens in California in their "Great Rosarians Lecture Series".

Jill BENNELL (UK)



WFRS Silver Medal

Without your help and assistance as WFRS Secretary for the past 12 years, the Federation could not have operated as smoothly and efficiently as it has. Your dedication to upholding the principles of the Federation has been exemplary. On many occasions you have exercised diplomatic skills to remind both Member Countries and Officers alike of the limits of their authorities keeping them well within the guidelines. Instilling such assurances in Member countries and fellow elected officers is no easy task and you have excelled with honor.

Hella BRUMME (Germany)



WFRS Silver Medal

The Europa-Rosarium at Sangerhausen must rate as the most important rose garden in the world. Under your curatorship the garden has an inventory of almost 7000 cultivars spanning the complete history of the evolution of the rose. Thanks to the initiative of rose breeder Peter Lambert, many old garden roses and species in danger of extinction were gathered together to form a valuable collection and the City of Sangerhausen had just the right plot of land to accommodate this unique collection.

Damianos CONTANTINOU (Greece)



WFRS Silver Medal

In executing your duties as WFRS Treasurer for the past six years, you have provided invaluable service while capably managing the finances of the Federation in a timely and highly professional manner. Gaining the confidence of Member countries and fellow elected officers is no easy task and you have excelled with honor. Moreover, your depth of personal commitment to the Hellenic Rose Society and its role in the world of roses is highly commendable.

Margaret MACGREGOR (Australia)



WFRS Silver Medal

As Convener of the Victorian Rose Society Centenary Conference in 2000, you illustrated your leadership qualities and volunteer spirit by organizing a very successful event that will be recorded in history. In Houston, Texas in 2000 you were elected as WFRS Vice-President for Australasia subsequently serving a second term from 2003-2006. In 2002 where you qualified as the first Australian to become an ARS judge. You are an able lecturer on all aspects of rose culture, pruning and exhibiting for the RSA.

Col. SHAKOOR (Pakistan)



WFRS Silver Medal

Your leadership role over the past two decades to the founding principles of the Pakistan Rose Society have brought your national rose society into prominence within the World Federation of Rose Societies. Under your guardianship there have been two WFRS Regional Conferences held in recent years and with great success, proof positive that the rose grows well in all parts of the world. Additionally, the hospitality received by visiting delegates has been admired and is worthy of our recognition.

Prof. Josef THOMAS (Czech)



WFRS Silver Medal

Your service as a WFRS Vice President for Europe for the past six years has been carried out with dignity becoming the office and conducted with a high degree of personal commitment. As representative for several central Europe countries within the Federation, your service has been a model of support and cooperation. Moreover, your depth of personal commitment to the Czech Rosa Club and its role in the world of roses is highly commendable.

Bernd WEIGEL (Germany)



WFRS Silver Medal

Your sustained service to the German Rose Society at its President for the last ten years is known worldwide. Moreover, your personal commitment to the International Rose Trials at Baden-Baden and their achievement of a high level of excellence are a hallmark of your leadership. You have also served several terms as WFRS Vice President for Europe with honor and dignity.

Honours to be bestowed later in the year to:

WORLD ROSE AWARD

Marilyn YOUNG (USA)

Egmont BEHRENS (South Africa)

Liesbeth COOPER (Bermuda)

Agnes GORSKA (Poland)

Robert LAPERRIERE (France)

Luciana Lupi TIMINI (Italy) [see Monza Report]

WFRS SILVER HONOUR MEDAL

Jean-Pierre HOUNIE (Uruguay)

Esther FUMAGALI (Italy) [see Monza Report]

WFRS GOLD MEDAL

Peter HARKNESS, DHM (England)

Peter BEALES, MBE, VMH, DHM (UK)



WFRS Gold Medal

You have spent virtually all your life with roses and are recognised as one of the world's leading experts with a special passion for old roses, or as you like to call them "Classic Roses". As an enthusiastic believer in growing roses with companion plants as featured both in your lectures and best-selling books, you have consistently encouraged people to look upon the

rose as a shrub which is part of the landscape and not to be grown in isolation. In discussing roses, you often call your association with roses "a lifelong love affair". But the mark of a truly great rosarian is best recognized by your modesty about your achievements and dedication to share that knowledge in your many book titles.

Dr. Takeo NAGATA (Japan)



WFRS Gold Medal

Your willingness to assume the significant leadership role as Chairman on behalf of the Japan Rose Society in planning and directing the 14th World Rose Convention 2006 in the fair city of Osaka, Japan deserves both our praise and honor. While many of the tasks were difficult and complex, you have excelled in each and every one with absolute precision and passionate dedication. In this

international undertaking, you succeeded with intellect and dignity worthy of our compliments and admiration. You have raised the hearts and spirits of delegates in attendance from all over the world, not to mention the many thousands who subsequently read in their respective national magazines and newsletters of the marvelous events that happened right here in

**Dr. Thomas Cairns, KM, DHM
Awarded WFRS Gold Medal**



Dear Tommy:

Born and educated in Scotland with both PhD and DSc degrees, you immigrated to America in 1968 to pursue a successful professional career. However, as your hobby for almost four decades, you have pursued your burning passion for roses becoming known throughout the world for your knowledge and skill in both growing and showing roses on an international level.

Your volunteer service to the American Rose Society is best described as herculean culminating as its 50th President from 200-2003. Perhaps most notable among your achievements was your editorship of the definite reference works Modern Roses 10 and Modern Roses XI. In the literary field, your educational rose books such as All About Roses, All About the Easiest Roses to Grow, The Complete Guide to Roses, and Botanica's Roses have all been best sellers in the USA. Today, you edit World Rose News having brought this publication into the 21st century as a vital communication link to the various WFRS Member Countries.

In the realm of speaker, you are gifted in the cultivation, exhibiting and preservation of the rose. Your eloquent lectures are always well researched and often guaranteed to include a liberal dose of Scottish wit. Indeed a lecture by Dr. Tommy, as you are most commonly known, on the program of an event ensures a sellout audience.

In 2000 during the 12th World Rose Convention you were honored by the American Rose Society by receiving the first ever Klima Medal for excellence in rose education. In 2005 the Royal National Rose Society awarded you its highest honor, the Dean Hole Medal for service to the rose and support for the RNRS.

During your presidential term you have worked tirelessly and selflessly for the Federation as a skilled administrator working closely with the Japan Rose Society on plans for Osaka 2006. Your recent presence in Gifu Prefecture helped facilitate the "Pacific Accords of Rose Friendship" cementing bonds between International Rose Trials in Japan, New Zealand, Australia and Hamilton.

Tommy, to recognize your devotion, dedication and outstanding service to the world of roses, I am pleased and privileged to award you the "WFRS Gold Medal". I offer my personal congratulations and know that you will wear this medal with honor knowing it came from the graceful 37 Member Countries of the World Federation of Rose Societies.

Yours sincerely,

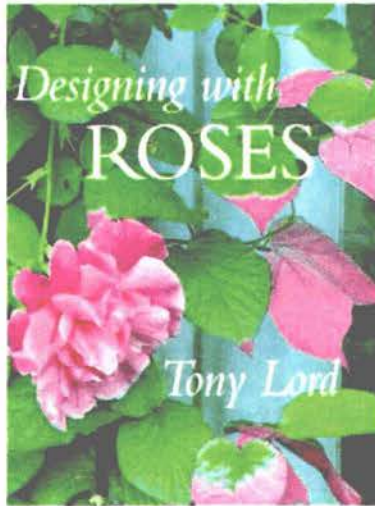
Dr. Gerald Meylan, WFRS President 2006-2009

14TH WORLD ROSE CONVENTION

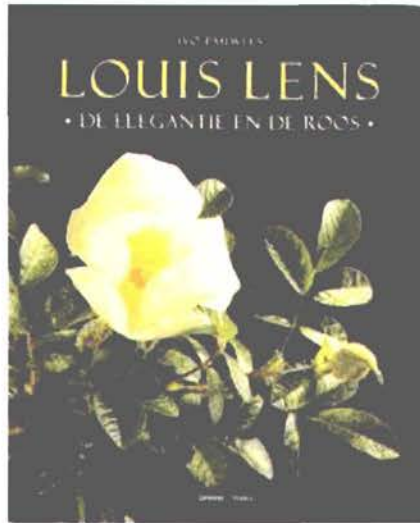


WFRS Literary Awards to Six Outstanding Books

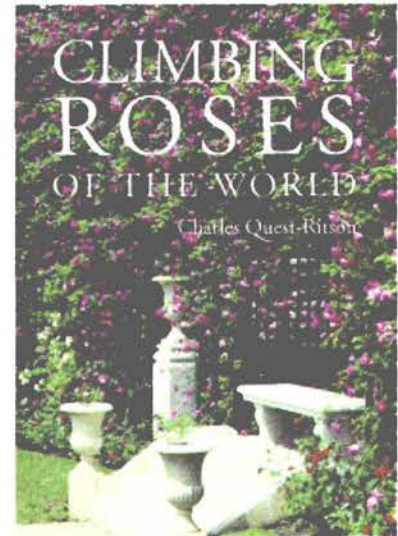
Six books were honored for their outstanding contribution to the world of roses in Osaka, Japan. These works were the first to be recognized by the new WFRS award.



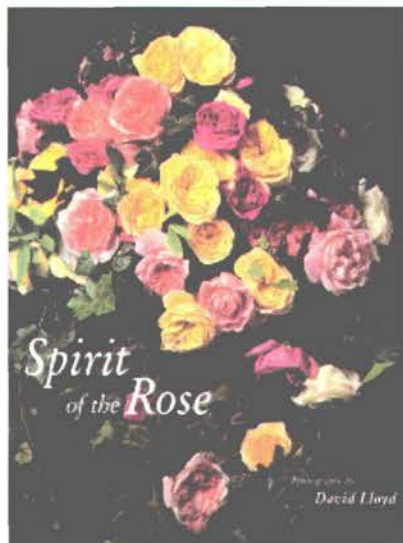
By Tony Lord
Trafalgar Square Publishing
192 pages, English
ISBN: 1570761485
10.2 x 10.2 x 0.9 inches



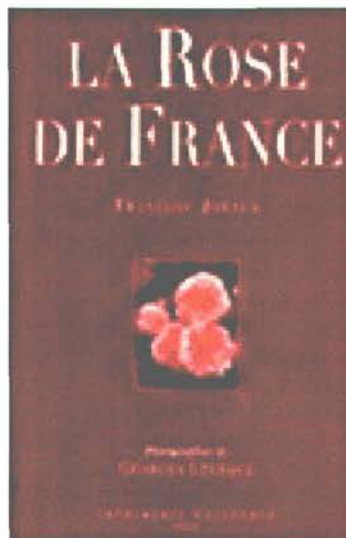
By Ivo Pauwels
ISBN : 90-209-6507-7
Formaat : 250 x 250
Aantal pagina's : 160



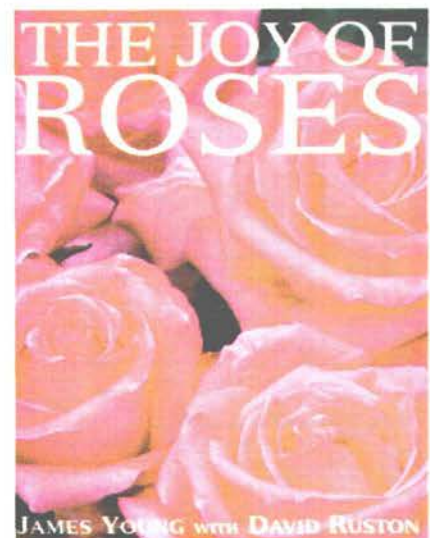
By Charles Quest Ritson
376 pages, Timber Press (2003)
ISBN: 0881925632
Size: 10.6 x 7.7 x 1.2 inches



By David Lloyd and Annie Beagent
pp 168, 11.5" x 11.5", 200 color
Published by Spirit of The Rose Ltd.,
37 Woodlands, Witney, Oxfordshire
OX28 2DR, England, UK
ISBN No. 09543939-0-2



by Francois Joyaux
La Rose De France:
Rosa Gallica Et Sa Descendance
Imprimerie nationale, France
ISBN 2-7433-0251-8 /
2743302518



By James Young & David Ruston
pp 168, 9.5" x 12.5,
4CPublishers Pty Ltd,
154 Upper Washington Drive,
Bonner Bay NSW 2226, Australia.
ISBN No. 09752-3400-5

14TH WORLD ROSE CONVENTION - OPENING CEREMONIES



A wonderful musical interlude provided prior to the start of the official ceremonies at Osaka International House



The flags of the Member Countries were carried by a charming group of school children who sang a favorite Japanese song



WFRS President, Dr. Tommy Cairns, unveils the commissioned watercolor of the Hall of Fame winner for 2006 'Pierre de Ronsard' as Alain Meilland proudly looks on.



A delighted Mayor Seki of the City of Osaka is awarded the WFRS World Rose Award Medal



Unveiling the watercolor of Hall of Fame winner 'Elina' for presentation to RNRS Past President Michael O'Loughlin on behalf of Pat Dickson of Northern Ireland



A surprised and delighted Mrs. Marufuku receives the WFRS World Rose Award Medal



A humble Prof. Ogawa received the WFRS Silver Honor Medal to recognize his special contributions



President Emeritus Dick Balfour receives the first ever "Della Balfour International Rose Friendship Medal"



Dr. Nagata, Chief Executive Officer of the Japan Rose Society is honored by receiving the WFRS Gold Medal

14TH WORLD ROSE CONVENTION - ROSE SHOW



Rose Show at Tsurumiryokuchi Expo '90 Commemorative Park



Rose show entries of miniature rose boxes and baskets



The winning bowl of hybrid teas



The winning miniature rose basket



The grand winner of the WFRS President's Trophy
a perfectly matched pair of 'Tekona'



Special display of the first rose genetically engineered
known to contain the blue pigment gene

14TH WORLD ROSE CONVENTION - WELCOMING RECEPTION



Dr. Tommy Cairns dressed in his happy coat raises his ceremonial wooden mallet as the group prepare to break open a cask of Saki as a traditional mark of Japanese welcome. From left to right: Dr. Nagata, Dick Balfour, Mayor Seki, WFRS President, and WFRS Past President, Ethel Freeman



The drummers were fantastic!



The dancers were charming and elegant



A very happy group of Kansai District Rose Society members obviously celebrating their rose show victories



Mrs. Meena Pimpalapure (center) flanked by Mr. and Mrs. M.S. Viraraghavan and two lovely ladies in the traditional kimonos

14TH WORLD ROSE CONVENTION - CLOSING CEREMONIES



At the President's Reception: From Bermuda, Marijke & George Peterich with their daughter



Mr. Hirose and Mayor Seki take a moment to record their friendship with WFRS President



Mayor Seki proudly displays the Garden Award of Excellence gained by Utsubo Koen in Osaka



Baroness Velge bestows the WFRS Silver Medal on Jill Bennell



Dr. Gerald Meylan presents the Garden Award of Excellence to the City of Fukuyama



Dr. Nagata ceremoniously transfers the WFRS Flag to the Canadian Consul

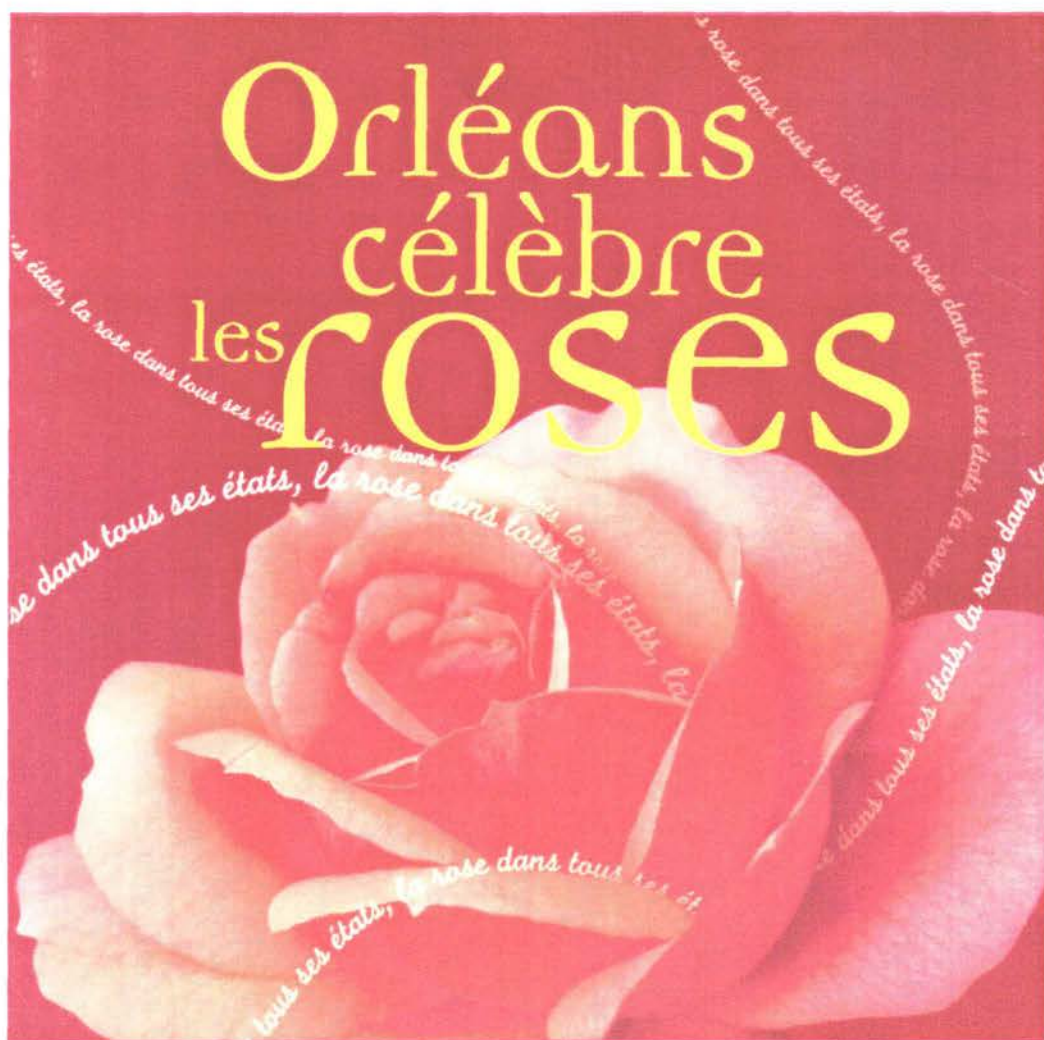


Dr. Gerald Meylan wearing the chain of office takes the oath of office administered by Dr. Tommy Cairns



A rare gathering of distinguished individuals who have been awarded the Dean Hole Medal of the Royal National Rose Society (left to right):

- Lt. Col. Ken Grapes, DHM
- Michael A. Roberts, DHM
- Richard C. Balfour, MBE, DHM
- Dr. Tommy Cairns, KM, DHM
- Michael O'Loughlin, DHM
- David Ruston, DHM



WFRS Regional Rose Conference

Orleans, France, 5-10 September 2006

Organized by Societe Francaise des Roses

***Delegates are cordially invited to attend this exciting event
packed full of prominent guest speakers and tours of rose gardens***

A Celebration of Roses in Orleans

Orleans has a special attachment to the rose which dates back several centuries. Many rose growers chose this site because of the soil rich in alluvial deposits from the nearby Loire River. Today, the International Rose Trails of Orleans and its three recently created rose gardens, among which one may find the Rose Garden Conservatoire of Orleans varieties as living proof of the strong presence of rose breeders.

To mark this strong bond between the City of Orleans and the rose, a celebration of the rose from May to September 2006 has been planned. Exceptional blooms, exhibitions, encounters, discovery of gardens, conferences and rose trials will be promoted throughout the city with the final event at the "salon de la Rose" from 8 to 10 September 2006, in the prestigious Parc Floral de la Source regarded as one of the most beautiful gardens of the region.

On this occasion, Orleans is hosting a WFRS Regional Conference in conjunction with the French Rose Society to re-discover the rose history of the City of Orleans featuring many prominent speakers both from the region and around the world.

Program of Events

Tuesday, 5 September, 2006

Welcome at the hotel, providing all the useful elements for the stay. Accommodation according to the category of the hotel chosen

20.00 Lecture: "The Rose and the Five Senses"
Philippe Sauvegrain (Switzerland)

21.30 Dinner on your own

Wednesday, 5 September 2006

08.00 Welcome and official opening at the Hotel GROSLOT

10.00 Discovery of Orleans. Conducted tour of the exhibition "La Rose des Peintres", at the Fine Arts Museum of Orleans

12.00 Lunch

15.00 Conducted tour of the exhibition "The Rose, A Flower, A Symbol" at the Collegiale Saint Pierre le Puellier
(Commissioner of the exhibition: Francois Joyaux)

17.00 Discovery of the rose garden Jean DUPONT- the Rose Garden Conservatoire of Orleans Varieties, consolidating 189 varieties, followed by a cocktails

20.00 Lecture: "History of Roses Orleanaises"
by Francois Joyaux (France)

21.30 Diner

Thursday, 7 September, 2006

09.00 EUROPEAN MEETINGS:

1. "Evolution of the Modern Roses through Hybridization"
Gerald Meylan (Switzerland)

2. "Rosa Gigantea and Descendants"
Helga Bricchet (Italy)

3. "The Resistance to the Diseases"
Thomas Debener (Germany)

4. "The Management Software for the Collection of Roses of the Val-de-Marne Rose Garden - L'Hay les Roses"
Laurence Lefevre, Conseil General du Val de Marne (France)
12.30 lunch

14.30 ROSE TRIALS - Parc Floral de la Source
Participation as member of the International Jury at the "48th International Rose Trial of Orleans"

17.30 Lecture.
"Roses and the Scientific Research",
Members of the French Group of Scientific Research on the rose

18.30 Free or conducted visit of the Parc Floral de la Source and the rose garden of the Miroir.

20.00 Dinner and proclamation of the results of the rose trials at the Domaine de la Fontaine, Olivet

Friday, 8 September, 2006

09.00 EUROPEAN MEETINGS:

1. Vegetal Collection "History of the Rose" of the botanic garden of Geneva by Sophie Dunand-Martin (Switzerland)

2. "Roses in British Gardens"
Ann Bird (United Kingdom)

3. "Rose Perfumes"
Sylvie Baudino (France)

4. "Summary of experiments carried out on roses led by L'Astredhor (France)"

12.30 Lunch

14.30 Visit of the "Salon de la Rose" and of the 12 ephemerals rose gardens. Baptism of the Rose 'Parfum d'Orleans'

16.00 Briefing of the members of the WFRS Conservation Committee

19.00 Appetizers with the Brotherhood of Orleans' Wines at the Hotel Groslot of Orleans

20.00 Lecture: "Roses in the garden"
Heike Giannom (France)

21.30 Dinner

Saturday, 9 September, 2006

OPTION 1

09.00 Visit of the rose bush nursery of Bellegarde (rose growers bond)

12.30 Lunch

14.30 Visit of the Morailles rose garden (les roses anciennes d'Andre Eve)

-21.00 Closing dinner at the Parc Floral de la Source

OPTION No 2

9.00 Visit of the Castle of Chambord

13.00 Lunch at Chaumont sur Loire

14,30 Visit of the International Festival Gardens of Chaumont sur Loire and of the Castle of Chaumont sur Loire

21.00 Closing dinner at the Parc Floral de la Source

Sunday, 10 September, 2006

9.30 Visit of the new rose garden of the Jardin des Plantes d'Orleans and visit of the Jardin des Plantes

12.30 Brunch

14.30 Return to the hotel and departure

Registration forma have been included with this issue. Please note that registration should be completed as soon as possible.

Office de Tourisme d'Orleans
2 place de l'Etape - 45000 Orleans
Tel : 02 38 24 01 61
Mail : bmandres@tourisme-orleans.com

REGIONAL ROSE CONFERENCES



WFRS Regional Rose Conference

City of Luxembourg, 6-10 June 2007

Organized by The Luxembourg National Rose Society

Convenor: Baroness A. De Schorlemer

Luxembourg has a great past intertwined with Roses. Since the creative period of the famous water colour artist Pierre-Joseph Redoute, born 1759 in the Duchy of Luxembourg, the country has enjoyed a special relationship with the rose. In 1855, Soupert & Notting, two young gardeners, established their nursery just outside the fortress, at Limpertsberg, and soon became eminent rose breeders by special appointment, to 5 reigning Courts.

Ten years after the 11th World Rose Convention in Benelux, we are proud to host the WFRS Regional Convention 2007 as part of the rebirth of our rose inheritance, dedicated to the future. The European Culture Year will provide an additional attraction to our millenary city and its great region: The green Heart of Europe and its dynamic culture sites. We shall visit three which are listed as UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

In addition to our Convention program, listed below, Luxembourg offers a variety of guided tours (see website www.lcto.lu) Since the number of rooms in the convention hotel in the green area of the city center is limited, persons interested should ideally contact us as soon as possible.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Wednesday, 6 June 2007

18:00 - 20:00 Registration at the hotel in Luxembourg-City

Thursday, 7 June 2007

08.00- 09:00 Registration at the hotel in Luxembourg-City

09:00 Welcome Reception and Breakfast

10:00 Lecture: "Luxembourg Roses: 150 years since the Rose wedding of Jean Soupert & Anne-Marie Notting"

11 :00 Walk through the old rose-breeders area

13 :00 Lunch (optional)

15 :00 Visit Luxembourg's green belt: On Edouard Andre's tracks

18 :00 Lecture by a specialist in old roses

Friday, 8 June 2007

09:00 Lecture: "How to interest young people in roses"

09 :45 Lecture: "New Roses, Past and Future"

10 :30 Lecture: "The Perfume of Roses"

Afternoon optional program:

11 :45 Transportation by bus to Nancy

13 :00 Lunch in an Art Nouveau restaurant

14:00 Visit of Galle glass-art in Nancy

15 :30 Visit of the Montet botanical garden

18 :30 Return by bus to the hotel

Saturday, 9th June 2007

08 :00 Lecture: "Hardy Roses for the Continental Climate"

09 :15 Lecture: "Roses and Hardy Perennials"

10 :30 Lecture: "The Forgotten Roses from the Old Cemeteries"

Afternoon optional programme:

12 :00 Transportation by bus to Trier

13 :00 Lunch at Nell's Parc hotel with the German rose friends

15 :00 Visit of Nell's Parc and the genealogy of Lambertiana roses

16:00 Visit of the historical city of Trier

18 :00 Wine tasting at the Luxembourg Moselle

19:00 Return by bus to the hotel

Sunday, 10th June 2007

09:00 Lecture: "Rosa moschata"

10 :30 Lecture: "Grafting on R. rubiginosa"

Lunch (optional)

Afternoon optional programme:

15 :00 Transportation by bus to Ansembourg

15 :30 Guided visit of Great Ansembourg Castle and Gardens

17 :00 Visit at the "Gaard um Titzebierg" - Conservatoire of the Luxembourg Heritage Roses

18 :00 Farewell picnic in the garden

20:00 Return by bus to the hotel

If you interested in receiving further information about this Regional Convention, please contact the Convention Office as soon as possible.

Luxembourg Rose Friends' Secretary

Claude Vion

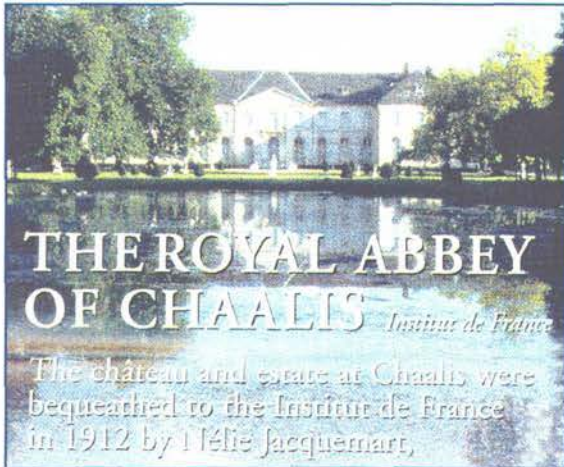
1 A, Titzebierg

L-8525 CALMUS LUXEMBOURG

Further information and an online registration form are available on www.gardenju/rousefrenn.

SPECIAL NOTE:

Immediately following this convention, the 11th International Heritage Rose Conference will take place at the Royal Abbey of Chailis in France, June 12-15, 2007. [see next page for details].



11th International Heritage Rose Conference

“Conference sur les Roses Anciennes”

Abbaye Royale de Chaalis,
France, 12-15 June 2007

Organized by
Association Rosa Gallica & the Institut de France

Convenor: Francois Joyaux

The 11th International Heritage Rose Conference is to be held at the spectacular Royal Abbey of Chaalis situated 30 miles north of Paris, close to the Charles de Gaulle International Airport.

The Conference will run from 13th to 15th of June 2007. This date has been chosen in line with the date of the WFRS Regional Convention in Luxembourg (7th- 10th of June); a pre-conference tour will be organised between both events.

THE ROYAL ABBEY OF CHAALIS

The Royal Abbey of Chaalis is situated near Paris (and Charles de Gaulle International Airport). This 18th century abbey is now a public estate which has been transformed into a museum, with a large park, a rose garden, etc. It belongs to the Institut de France, an institution regrouping the five french academies (Academiue Francaise, Academies des Sciences, of Fine Arts, etc.). The region is marvelous and has a lot of facilities for an international conference. Moreover, the Institut de France has the experience for organizing colloquiums, exhibitions, etc.

PROGRAMME (PROVISIONAL)

12th of June: Evening Welcome

13th of June
Morning Lectures
Afternoon Visit to the Roseraie de l'Hay les Roses

14th of June
Morning Lectures
Afternoon Visit to the Roseraie de Bagatelle (Paris)
Meeting of the WFRS Specialized Conservation Comm.

15th of June Morning Lecture
Afternoon Visit to the Chateau de Chantilly
Evening Gala Dinner and Closing

OPTIONAL PRE - CONFERENCE TOUR

11th June
Afternoon Visit of the Reims Cathedral and Champagne producing area

12th June
Morning Visit to Giverny Gardens and Monet Museum
Afternoon Visit of the Chaalis Estate: Jacqueniatt-Andre Museum, Virgin Chapel with Francesco Primaticio frescoes, (a la Francaise Park, Rose garden Evening welcome

OPTIONAL POST- CONFERENCE TOUR

16th of June Morning visit to the Academie Francaise (Paris)
Free afternoon in Paris
17th June Morning Visit to Malmaison and Josephine Park
Afternoon Closure

ORGANIZATION

This conference will be organized by the Association Rosa Gallica, an associate member of the WFRS (www.rosagallica.org) in cooperation with the Institut de France of which the Royal Abbey of Chaalis is a property (www.institut-de-france.fr)

ENROLLMENT

Registration details will be sent out in October 2006 for commencement of bookings in November 2006

CONTACT

Francois Joyaux
Rosa Gallica
53470 Commer
FRANCE

Voice: (33) 2 43 04 16 23
Fax (33) 2 43 04 13 62
info@rosagallica.org

NOTE:

This special conference has been arranged to permit delegates attending the WFRS Regional in Luxembourg to continue their stay in Europe a few days longer and take full advantage of enjoying the speakers and tours of this exciting event in an equally exciting place.

INTERNATIONAL ROSE TRIALS



Immediately after the most wonderful convention in Osaka, I headed for Monza, Italy for two important reasons. One, I had been invited so many times by Ester Fumagalli that I could not let 2006 go passed without a visit to this legendary rose garden, "RosetoNiso Fumagalli" set in the Villa Reale in Monza, founded some 42 years ago by her late husband, Niso Fumagalli - a most wonderful setting for any rose garden let alone an international rose trial. But perhaps more importantly, I had the opportunity to award two WFRS Medals, the "Silver Honor Medal" to Ester Fumagalli, President of Associazione Italiana della Rosa and the "World Rose Award" to Luciana Lupi Timini, the Secretary of the Italian Rose Society.

I arrived in Monza at the Hotel de Ville adjacent to the

rose gardens with a spectacular full view from the window.

Next morning it was sheer delight to awake to the pictorial splendor of the rose gardens in the morning sun.

At that moment I knew this was exactly the therapy I needed after the somewhat hectic, but very enjoyable, pace of Osaka 2006.

After the formal greetings by Ester Fumagalli, I was honored by being selected as President of the 42nd International Rose Trails at Monza. The gardens were in impeccable condition that morning with peak bloom and not a fallen leaf to be detected anywhere. It was perfectly true what many other writers had been stating for decades - "the most wonderous site in all the rose world!". In 2003 the WFRS awarded this rose garden the "Award of Excellence" which is proudly displayed at the main entrance.



Ester Fumagalli proudly displays her WFRS Silver Honor Medal



The "WFRS Award of Garden Excellence 2003" occupies a prominent place at the entrance to the gardens for all to see and be proud.



Ester Fumagalli (center) next to Dr. Tommy Cairns along with fellow judges at the 42nd International Rose Trials, "Roseto Niso Fumagalli"



La Mardina 2006, Maria Venturi with Ester Fumagalli



Luciana Lupi Timini, Secretary of the Italian Rose Society, receives the WFRS World Rose Award observed by Moderator Silvano Fumagalli



The prize giving ceremonies moderated by Silvano Fumagalli with Maria Venturi



Yes, the Roseto Niso Fumagalli is well worth a visit when traveling in Italy. Located just outside the wonderful cosmopolitan City of Milan, Monza offers the rose lover so much in this the garden of former Italian Kings and Queens.

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT - 15TH WORLD ROSE CONVENTION 2009



Vancouver, British Columbia

June 18-24, 2009

Combine your love of Roses with an unparalleled travel experience. The World Rose Convention in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada will expand your rose network through education and social events. While in Vancouver you can enjoy the majestic mountains, sparkling ocean, rainforests and lush foliage all which make Vancouver one of the most beautiful cities in the world to visit.

The Canadian Rose Society and the Vancouver Rose Society are proud to host the 15th Annual World Rose Convention in Vancouver, British Columbia. The event will include a seven day convention in conjunction with a three day public Rose Festival. As well, the American Rose Society will join us by holding their

Spring/Summer Convention in Vancouver along with our World Convention.

During the day you can take in the comprehensive educational programs featuring top lecturers and guest speakers from around the world which promise to be stimulating and thought provoking. Also during the day there will be a variety of tours offered including local public and private gardens that will highlight the array of roses in the host city of Vancouver. In addition to a spectacular Rose Show, our Rose Festival will offer an abundance of rose and garden displays, exhibits, plants and accessory sales, artwork and photography competitions and displays as well as educational workshops led by local experts.

There is a world to discover when you visit Vancouver – Spectacular by Nature and Beautiful British Columbia. The convention will feature a variety of pre and post convention tours, opening up your travel opportunities to enjoy the highlights of British Columbia. In addition to the private and public garden tours, you will be able to choose from tours that explore all of the following and more. The tour options and pricing will be available in 2008.

Victoria

Victoria lets you step back in time to a picturesque city of cobblestone streets and stately architecture. Poised oceanside in Canada's mildest climate, Victoria is a mixture of influences, from its 19th-century London charm to modern arts and culture. Convention delegates will enjoy a tour of Butchart Gardens and specially selected private gardens.

Whistler

Just two hours north of Vancouver along the breathtaking Sea to Sky Highway lies the award winning resort of Whistler. A picturesque four season alpine resort nestled in the Coast Mountains offering an attractive mix of cosmopolitan amenities and pristine beauty.

Thompson Okanagan

Millions of years ago, massive glacial ice floes carved out a valley, creating an ideal place for orchards and wineries. A land of contradiction and lush abundance; wild rivers and tranquil lakes, sheer-walled canyons and wide-open plains. Enjoy wine festivals, boating, golf, fishing, and much more.

Gulf Islands

Even before you arrive on the Islands, you'll feel their effect. On the ferry over, you'll start smiling more, breathing easier. Maybe even staring in wonder as orca whales surface from the deep. By the time you arrive on Vancouver Island or any of our Gulf Islands, you'll be relaxed and ready to kick back and enjoy your escape.

Cruise Alaska

Alaska is America's last great true frontier, an unspoiled wilderness of glimmering glaciers, abundant forests, towering mountains, exotic wildlife, and waterfront communities. Alaska is a destination full of Native American culture and Russian influence -- a step back in time to the days of gold rush saloons

and oil booms. Alaska, simply put, is a once in a lifetime, dream vacation.

The Alaska Cruise season begins in May and ends in September. Although July and August are the warmest months to experience these incredible sites, fall and spring are the most fun, the most beautiful and the savings are the best.

A typical Alaska Roundtrip cruise departs from Vancouver and spends the first day cruising the Inside Passage.

They will then visit 3 or 4 of the following places, depending upon the ship and departure: Juneau, Glacier Bay, Ketchikan, Hubbard Glacier, Skagway/Haines and Sitka. The ship then turns around and cruises back to Vancouver where passengers disembark the ship to continue a BC adventure or return home.

Explore the Rocky Mountains with Rocky Mountaineer Raitours

Traveling eastbound and westbound between Vancouver, British Columbia, and Jasper or Banff and Calgary, Alberta, the Rocky Mountaineer retraces the legendary western Canadian routes of the first transcontinental railway. Rocky Mountaineer Rail Tours two-day, all daylight rail journey follows the historical train route constructed over 100 years ago through Canada's West and the Canadian Rockies. The entire trip takes place during daylight hours to ensure travelers enjoy all the scenery. Guests overnight midway through the journey in historic Kamloops, British Columbia. Built around the two-day train trip are more than 40 package tours, which explore the breathtaking scenery of British Columbia and Alberta by land, sea and rail.

Join us in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada in 2009! We look forward to welcoming you! For more information contact Sea to Sky Meeting Management at 1-604-984-6447 or visit:



World Rose
Convention

Vancouver • Canada
June 18-24, 2009

www.worldrose-vancouver2009.com



WFRS COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday 16th May 2006 at the World Rose Convention in the Miyako Hotel, Osaka, Japan

The President, Dr Thomas Cairns
Chairman

The following voting representatives were present to represent their National Societies:

Australia	Mrs Margaret Macgregor (voting) & Mr Robert Melville
Belgium	Mr Frans Thomas (voting) & Baroness Marie-Louise Velge
Bermuda	Mrs Marijke Peterich
Canada	Mrs Rachel Flood (voting) & Mrs Ethel Freeman
Czech Republic	Dr Josef Thomas
France	Professor Maurice Jay
Germany	Mr Bernd Weigel (voting) & Ms Carla Erck
Great Britain	Mrs Ann Bird (voting) & Mr Richard Balfour
Greece	Mr Damianos Constantinou
India	Mr Ramrao Jagtap
Italy	Mrs Helga Brichet
Japan	Professor Akira Ogawa (voting) & Mr Takamasa Tsuge
Netherlands	Mr Henk Verschuur
New Zealand	Mrs Heather Macdonell (voting) & Mr Peter Elliott
Northern Ireland	Mr Eugene Trainor
Pakistan	Mian Zafar Iqbal (voting), Dr Mahmooda Hashmi & Lt.Col. Shakoore
Romania	Dr Stefan Wagner
Slovakia	Mr Juraj Kuba
Slovenia	Dr Vladimir Vremec
South Africa	Mr Desmond Wright (voting) & Mrs Sheenagh Harris
Spain	Mrs Matilde Ferrer
Sweden	Mr Lars-Åke Gustavsson
Switzerland	Mrs Milly Weyermann (voting) & Dr Gérald Meylan
Uruguay	Mrs Mercedes Villar (voting) & Mrs Rosario Carrau
U S A	Mrs Jolene Adams (voting) & Mr Ed Griffith

Also present the Immediate Past President, Lt Col Ken Grapes, Past President Mr David Ruston, Chairman Convention Committee Mrs Lois Tabb, Chairman Classification & Registration Committee Mrs Gerta Roberts

In attendance The Secretary, Mrs Jill Bennell and the Secretary Elect Mr Malcolm Watson.

Item 1. The President asked for a roll call of delegates and the above responded as voting delegates to Council. It was agreed that Dr Cairns would write to HIH The Princess Nobuko wishing her well and a full recovery to good health.

Item 2. **Minutes** 23 July 2003 Glasgow were adopted, Proposed Dr Hashmi, seconded Mrs MacDonell.

Item 3. Report of the Executive Committee

3a. Review of Stewardship

Document 'Standing Committees – Composition & Procedures' revised and re-issued November 2004

Framed watercolours of the two HOF roses were painted for presentation to the respective breeders and also as mementos of the convention to Mayor Seki and Dr. Nagata (Japan Rose Society). The artist was Louise Estes of Alabama, USA.

A portrait of the 'Princess Nobuko' rose was offered for presentation to Her Royal Highness The Princess Nobuko at the Opening Ceremonies. The artist, Vangelis Andriotakis, was born in Greece on the Island of Crete and has lived and worked in the United States of America since 1972. In the absence of Her Imperial Highness The Princess Nobuko, her daughter Her Imperial Highness The Princess Yohko accepted the painting on her mother's behalf.

A new medal struck at the request of the Pakistan National Rose Society entitled "The Della Balfour International Rose Friendship Medal". This medal to be awarded every three years with the awardee selected by the Pakistan National Rose Society and to be presented by the WFRS President. The first recipient was Mr Richard Balfour. The Executive agreed that this first presentation on this occasion would be made by the Vice President for Central Asia.

A new WFRS Standing Committee to recognise the Historic Roses Groups in Member Countries. Mr David Ruston reported that in response to this concept, 14 Member Countries had replied in favour of such a committee.

The President referred to the plaques for the "WFRS Award of Garden Excellence". There had been eleven gardens honoured in 2003 and each had received a superior plaque cast in bronze. The President explained that he had willingly paid for the bronze plaques, but the Executive Committee at its meeting in Auckland, New Zealand in November 2004 was not in favour of the cost being borne by an individual. He was reimbursed for the cost of the plaques and postages in the amount of \$3,000.00.

3b. Chairmen of Standing Committees.

The Executive Committee appointed the following persons:

Awards Committee	Mr Ian Spriggs
Classification and Registration	Mrs Gerta Roberts
Publications	Dr Thomas Cairns
Convention	Mrs Lois Tabb
Conservation	Professor François Joyaux
Heritage	Mr David Ruston

3c. Structure of Honours Committee

The President asked for approval of the following persons to serve on the Honours Committee for the next three years to June 2009: The President, The Immediate Past President, Mrs Margaret Macgregor (Australia), Mrs Sheenagh Harris (South Africa) and Baroness Marie-Louise Velge (Belgium). Council agreed. Proposed Mr Constantinou, seconded Mrs MacDonell.

3d. Revision of Articles of Association.

The President reminded members that the proposed revised document had been sent to all Member Countries in advance of this Council meeting. He had received objections to some of the revised Articles from the Canadian Rose Society, and asked Mrs Freeman (Canada) to present Canada's proposed corrections/additions. Mrs Freeman made the following proposals on behalf of the Canadian Rose Society:

ARTICLE I

After the sentence "The registered office of the Federation shall be in England and Wales and the principal business office shall be the address of the current Executive Director." insert the sentence The Executive Committee are also the Board of Directors.

Explanation – We have to have a Board of Directors to sign the form for Companies House, and these names also go to the Charities Commission as our Trustees. Seconded Baroness Marie-Louise Velge, all in favour and agreed.

ARTICLE IV – Section 1

Change the first sentence to read "The honorary title of President Emeritus may be bestowed by the Federation on a proposal of its Executive Committee and with the approval of Council upon any Past President the Federation thus chooses to honour. Seconded Mrs Mercedes Villar, all in favour and agreed.

ARTICLE VI – Section 1

Change the first sentence to read, "The Council of the Federation shall consist of the delegates named by the member countries, but each member country shall have only one vote."

Explanation – The members of the Executive should NOT be voting members of Council. Council is our Annual General Meeting (although normally held every three years) and an Annual General Meeting is held to ratify the actions of the Executive and the Committees. So the members of the Executive should not have a vote unless they are acting as the official delegate for their countries. Seconded Mrs Marijke Peterich, all in favour and agreed.

ARTICLE VI – Section 4

Should read "The President or in his absence any Vice President"
Explanation – Proper procedure according to Robert's Rules of Order, Congressional rules, etc. Seconded Baroness Marie-Louise Velge, all in favour and agreed.

ARTICLE VI – Section 8

Reinstate that all Past President are non-voting members of the Executive.

Explanation – This is eliminating a valuable source of experience and past knowledge from the Executive. Seconded Mrs Milly Weyermann, all in favour and agreed.

ARTICLE VI – Section 8 (should be Section 9)

There is an unintentional error in that the last line should read, "Each Region shall elect the allotted number of Vice-Presidents to serve a three-year term.

ARTICLE VIII

Change United States (one Vice President), North America (Canada and Bermuda) (one Vice President) to North America (two Vice Presidents) and Australia (one Vice President) and New Zealand (one Vice President) to Australasia (two Vice Presidents).

Explanation – Vice Presidents should NOT be named for specific countries. It makes all the other countries look like second-class members. Do as is done for Europe. Seconded Mrs Mercedes Villar, all in favour and agreed.

The entire section on Council meetings has been eliminated - who can call a meeting, notification, quorum, procedures, etc. This has to be put back in, with changes if necessary. Otherwise there is no guarantee that a Council meeting is a necessity and could, in effect be eliminated and the entire operation of the WFRS would then be run by the Executive Committee only.

Council agreed that the Articles of Association as distributed to Member Countries may not be presented to Companies House until all the proposed amendments and additions from the Canadian Rose Society had been carried out. Proposed Dr Hashmi, Seconded Baroness Marie-Louise Velge and carried unanimously.

3e. Membership Dues. The Executive sought Council's approval to increase the WFRS Membership Subscription from £30 to £50 per annum as from 1 January 2007. Council acknowledged the need for this step and agreed to the increase. Proposed Baroness Marie-Louise Velge, seconded Mr Bernd Weigel.

Item 4. Report of the Hon. Treasurer.

4a. Accounts 2004,2005. Mr Constantinou presented the full audited statutory accounts for the years 2004 and 2005 and the financial statement 1 January to 30 April 2006. Each representative had copies and were asked to ensure that they were taken back and handed to the person responsible for archiving such material for their societies. The Secretary said that copies would be mailed to those Member Societies not represented at Council.

Mr Constantinou considered that the accounts showed sufficient funds to administer the Federation and its activities comfortably to the end of 2008 without having taken into account the income to come from the Osaka Convention, which would boost the funds considerably. The accounts as presented were adopted.

4b. Budget.

The Hon.Treasurer presented the budget and comparison through July 2003 to June 2006 and the budget forecast July 2006 to June 2009. Considerable discussion ensued on the various projected expenses. The President pointed out that the combined expenditure on the honorarium for the Executive Director and printing and postages on World Rose News amounted to some £5,000 per year. The continued health of the Federation's finances rests with each triennial World Rose Convention. Dr Cairns acknowledged that thanks to the support for this Convention the projected income was in the region of £9,000. However, if the income from future Conventions drops again to £5,000 to £6,000 leaving the next and future Presidents to make the WFRS financially sound. The President pointed out that in the interest of saving money there were some expenses that could not be avoided, for instance the honorarium to the Executive Director and the fee to the auditor. A suggestion that there was no need for the accounts to be fully audited was rejected on the advice of the Hon.Treasurer. The meeting then discussed the budgeted costs of the following:

World Rose News: The Editor (Dr Cairns) said that there was a saving to be made on the printing and postage if WRN was reduced in size to say 16-18 pages. Also sea rather than air post and the possibility of putting it on the WFRS Website. It was generally agreed that sea mail took far too long and that not all Member Countries had computer technology to down load the publication. After further discussion the motion to Council was to continue the publication at 36 pages, proposed Mrs Bricchet, seconded Mr Constantinou. The President called for a vote and on a show of hands 15 Members were for the motion, which was carried by a majority.

WFRS Levy from World Rose Conventions: Lt Col Grapes suggested an increase in the contribution to the Federation from Member countries hosting a Triennial World Rose Convention. Mrs Macdonell proposed an increase from £15 to £30, but this did not meet with any response. Mrs Macdonell then withdrew her first proposal and proposed an increase from £15 to £20 per registered delegate as from 2012. This was seconded Mrs Peterich and carried unanimously.

WFRS Levy on Regional Conventions. Mrs Adams moved that the levy from Regional Conventions be increased from £5 to £10 per registered delegate. Seconded by Mrs Flood. It was noted that the increase would not apply to those Regional events already approved e.g. Orleans, Sept.2006, Luxembourg June 2007 and Adelaide October 2008. The motion was put to the meeting and carried on a show of hands.

Award of Garden Excellence Plaques: Some members felt that there were too many awards. Mrs Macdonell proposed that no more than six awards be made at any one triennial Convention; seconded Mrs Villar. However, Mrs Freeman, Mrs Macgregor and Lt Col Grapes were not in favour of putting a restriction on the number of applications and subsequent awards. The President called for a vote on the motion that the Award be restricted to six at future triennial conventions. On a show of hands 11 members were for and 13 against. On the majority vote the President declared no change to the rules and number of awards made. Dr Meylan mentioned that three of the plaques awarded at this Convention would be funded privately at no cost to the Federation.

Honours – Gold, Silver and World Rose Award Medals: Mrs Freeman felt that there had been too many awards since the last Convention in Glasgow 2003. Lt Col Grapes replied that it was appropriate for a world organisation to honour worthy recipients from time to time and did not agree that any restrictions be placed upon the honours committee. The President again called for a show of hands on the motion that the awarding of honours be left to the

judgment of the members of the honours committee, including some awards made between triennial Conventions. A majority vote of 14 carried the motion.

Expenses for Officers (extract from Executive Committee 1 Osaka)

The decision in Los Angeles that the Vice Presidents' expenses of £100 a year cease as from January 2006 was reappraised. After some discussion for and against, it was finally agreed that the decision should stand. Although it had been agreed in Los Angeles that the £500 a year for the President should remain, this decision was rescinded in favour of no expenses for the President.

4c. Appointment of Auditor: Messrs R Sutton & Co, 25 Park Street, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK11 6SS, United Kingdom were re-appointed Auditors for the ensuing three years up to the World Rose Convention in Vancouver June 2009. Proposed Mrs Macgregor, seconded Mrs Flood.

Item 5. Reports of Standing Committees:

5a. Awards: Dr Meylan reported that all candidates for the Award of garden Excellence and the Literary Award had been successful in the ballot at the Awards Committee and recommended the following awards:

Garden Excellence Plaques to:

Bara Koen, Fukuyama, Japan
Centenary Rose Garden, Tamil Nadu, India
Coughton Court, Alcester, England
Pageant of Roses Garden, Whittier, USA
Parc de la Grange, Geneva, Switzerland
Parc de la Tête d'Or, Lyon, France
Ramon Ortiz Rosaleda, Madrid, Spain
Roger's Rose Garden, Hamilton, New Zealand
Utsubo Koen, Osaka, Japan
Washington Park International Rose Test Garden, Portland, USA
Westbroekpark, The Hague, Netherlands

Literary Awards to:

Climbing Roses of The World, Charles Quest-Ritson
De Elegantie en de Roos, Ivo Pauwels
Designing with Roses, Tony Lord
The Joy of Roses, James Young and David Ruston
La Rose de France, François Joyaux
Spirit of The Rose, David Lloyd and Annie Beagent

Regarding the Literary Award, the President said that each publisher would be at liberty to use the WFRS logo in any advertising for the book. A suitable certificate would be produced. Rose Hall of Fame. Dr Meylan reported that 33 Member countries had responded to his appeal for their Societies top three roses. The results were then placed according to the number of votes, resulting in six varieties in contention. There had been a clear division between the second placed and the remaining contenders, but the margin between the first and second was very narrow and it had been agreed between the Chairman and the President that there be two awards for the Hall of Fame – 'Pierre de Ronsard' from the house of Meilland, France and 'Elina' from Dickens of Northern Ireland. Members were already aware of these awards and the portrait of 'Pierre de Ronsard' had been presented to Alain Meilland at the Opening Ceremony. The portrait of 'Elina' would be taken back to the UK for presentation to the breeder.

Old Rose Hall of Fame: 'Mme Hardy'

Chairman 2006-2009: Mr Ian Spriggs, Australia.

5b. Conservation: The Chairman, Mrs Brichet, reported on the five meetings of the Specialised Conservation Committee (SCC) held in the UK, the Czech Republic, Switzerland, France and New Zealand since the World Convention in Glasgow 2003 and the continued flow of garden inventories being received from around the world. She suggested that, in exceptional cases, monies from the committee's restricted fund might be used to offer transport to Directors of Botanic Gardens (e.g. St Petersburg) who were financially limited. The Chairman also reported on the establishment of National Collections, be they of specific breeders or classes and types of roses. She spoke of the

progress of the 'Core Collection of Roses for Preservation', which is on going under the administration of Professor François Joyaux (Vice Chair of the Committee). There was the possibility of a new project in Budapest, Hungary to restore the rose garden on the city's Margit Island and preserve the varieties of the Hungarian breeder, Gregor Marck, hopefully with assistance of western rose breeders. At it's meeting, the Conservation Committee was given a demonstration of the Roses Locations Database, the sum of all the information received by the SCC over nine years. The database is to be included on the Federation's website (www.worldrose.org) and will be available to the general public. It is free to all, in conformity with the Federation's status as a registered charity, and may be considered complementary to 'Help Me Find'. The Chairman's special thanks went to its database manager, Mrs Marily Young (USA) whom the committee has requested to continue her work. Chairman 2006-2009: Professor François Joyaux.

5c. Convention: The Chairman, Mrs Lois Tabb, reported that at the meeting of the Committee Brenda Viney and Darlene Saunders from the Vancouver Rose Society gave an informative presentation on the progress towards the 2009 Convention in Vancouver. They touched on sponsorship, rose show, registration, hotels etc. She would keep in close contact with the organising committee up to the event in June 2009. Mrs Tabb confirmed the following WFRS Regional Conference had been approved:

Orleans, France 5-10 September 2006
Luxembourg, 7-10 June 2007
Adelaide, Australia, October 2008

A Heritage Rose Conference would be held in Chaalis, France in 2007 immediately following the Luxembourg WFRS Regional.

The 16th World Rose Convention: The Chairman explained that there had been no applications to host the 2012 Convention; therefore, the Executive Committee felt it necessary to come up with an alternative solution to ensure a World event in 2012. The Immediate Past President, Lt Col Ken Grapes presented the Executive Committee's proposal for a World Rose Convention aboard a liner cruising the Mediterranean. Ports of call could take in rose gardens and places of interest and meetings and lectures held in the early evenings. After the meeting Mrs Tabb, The President and The Secretary had all received an official letter from Mrs Sheenagh Harris, the President of The Federation of Rose Societies of South Africa stating that her Society wished to apply to host the 2012 World Rose Convention. Some discussion ensued and Mrs Harris agreed to complete the official application form and send copies to the President (to be elected at this meeting), the Chairman of the Convention Committee and the Executive Director. The application then to be considered by the newly appointed Executive Committee and thence to the membership. Mrs Brichet proposed that the application be circulated to the Member Countries along with the alternative 'cruise' proposal and a postal vote requested; seconded Mrs Peterich. The President asked for a show of hands on the motion that the 2012 venue for the 16th World Rose Convention be decided by postal vote. Nineteen Members were for the postal vote and the motion was carried. Chairman 2006-2009: Mrs Lois Tabb

5d. Heritage Roses: The Chairman, Mr David Ruston, reported that the Executive Committee at its meeting in Los Angeles in October 2005 agreed that there be a WFRS standing committee representing the interests of the various Heritage Rose Groups around the World. Mr Ruston had written to all the WFRS Members, and had received positive replies from 14. It was appreciated that not all Member Countries have Heritage Groups. The new committee to be know in future as 'The Heritage Roses Committee of the World Federation of Rose Societies'. At its very first meeting representatives to the committee were appointed and others suggested and would be approached by the Chairman. At the meeting it was made clear that, although there may be more than one representative to WFRS triennial meetings from each group only one vote per country would be permissible and then within the interests of the meeting's business. A small committee was formed to define the date at which a rose may be officially recognised as a heritage rose.

Chairman 2006-2009: Mr David Ruston

5e. **Publications:** Mrs Freeman reported that 5 issues of World Rose News and 3 up-dates to the Rose Directory have been published since the 2003 Glasgow Convention. She had received replies from 33 Member countries and the up-date for the Directory would be ready in June. Mrs Freeman would include all information on the Federation's Officers, Committee Chairmen, Awards, Honours etc. All this information would be supplied to Member Countries on a CDROM. Once again she asked to be notified of any errors or omissions on the information supplied. The Directory would also be published on the Federation's website.

Appointments:

Editor World Rose News – Dr Thomas Cairns
 Editor Rose Directory – Mrs Ethel Freeman
 Webmaster/mistress – Mrs Ethel Freeman

Budgets:

World Rose News - £2,500 per year
 Rose Directory - £250 per year
 Website - £175 per year

Mrs Freeman made special mention of the splendid publication, triennial Report of the WFRS, produced for this Convention's delegates by the Japan Rose Society. She expressed her committee's congratulations to the Japan Rose Society.
Chairman 2006-2009: Dr Thomas Cairns

5f. **Shows Standardisation (Judging) Committee:** The Chairman, Mr Ed Griffith reported that at its meeting in Auckland, New Zealand the document 'Guidelines for Judging Roses' was completed and approved and includes a schedule of 7 WFRS International Challenge Classes which may be included in Members' shows. Award of Excellence Certificates for successful exhibits in these classes had also been approved and would be available to Members at cost plus postage. Mr Griffith said that the budget of £250 total for the three years 2003 to 2006 agreed in Glasgow had remained untouched and asked for a similar budget for the next three years. Council agreed to a budget of £250 total for 2006-2009, proposed Mrs Macgregor, seconded by Mrs Flood.

Credentials for WFRS International Judges: Mr Griffith reported that his committee had agreed that Member countries accredited judges would be acceptable for inclusion in the WFRS list and that Members be asked to provide a list of their judges. These people would form the basis of the 'WFRS International Judges Register'. Mr Griffith acknowledged that not all member countries held competitive rose shows, he urged them to do so for the general public and suggested that an article might be included in World Rose News to inform such members that assistance is available to get them started.
Chairman 2006-2009: Mr Ed Griffith

5g. **International Rose Trials Committee:** The Chairman, Mr Bernd Weigel reported the following: From the responses received, the following proposal (based on the Australian criteria) was recommended to the meeting:

POINTS		
1. General impression (habit, attraction, flowers)		30
2. Health (Health and Disease)		30
3. Bloom (colour, bud, withering, fragrance etc)		30
4. Novelty		10
	TOTAL	100
PROPOSAL	63 – 67 points	Bronze Medal
	68 – 72 points	Silver Medal
	73+ points	Gold Medal.

It was agreed that due to the different emphasis placed on cultivation throughout the world, it was unlikely that we would ever be able to agree on uniform judging criteria and this was left to the discretion of the individual trial gardens. It was resolved however, that we recommend to Council, International Judging Panels use an assessment schedule totaling 100 points and that these assessments be used for 1/3rd of the total points, and 2/3rd of the value to come from the permanent jury's assessments. Mr Weigel requested that these guidelines be distributed to all Rose Trial gardens throughout the world.

5h. **Classification and Registration:** The Chairman, Mrs Gerta Roberts opened the meeting by asking the President, Dr Cairns to outline the remit of the committee which had not been active since Houston 2000. Dr Cairns outlined the work ahead:

Registration:

To encourage breeders to declare the parentage of their new roses when registering with the International Registration Authority.

Action: A letter be sent to all rose breeders throughout the world urging them to provide all the information listed on the registration form including parentages. A letter would be drafted by the Chairman and submitted to the Executive Committee prior to being signed by The President and distributed. A directory of who is responsible for registration of new roses within each geographical zone would be compiled.

Classification:

Considerable progress was achieved in the classification of roses Internationally when Modern Roses XI was published. Whether classification should be looked at again in the light of evolving breeding programmes in an endeavour to help future publications of Modern Roses would be considered.

A Directory of Breeders:

A Directory of Breeders to include both large and small companies and amateur rose breeders will be compiled and eventually included on the WFRS website. The first step to obtain as much information on breeders through their national organisations.

The Chairman reported that she would be contacting the Chairman of the Conservation Committee to establish co-operation between the two committees. She also reported that she would be forming a working committee of eight five of whom had already been appointed. As soon as the remainder had been appointed the full committee would be included in the document 'Standing Committees – Composition and Procedures'.
Chairman 2006-2009: Mrs Gerta Roberts

Item 6. Elections of Officers:

Ballot papers were distributed to the 25 voting representatives. The President asked the voting delegates to mark each ballot paper with a cross against their Society's choice.

6a. Treasurer:

The members were reminded that Mr Damianos Constantinou was standing down at this Convention. There were two candidates: 1. Mrs Jill Bennell, UK (the retiring Secretary) and 2. Mrs Heather MacDonell, New Zealand. The result of the ballot: Mrs Jill Bennell to fill the post of Treasurer for the next three years.

6b. Vice Presidents:

Europe Regions 1,2 & 3. There were three candidates for three vacancies. A secret ballot was not necessary and the following were elected on a show of hands:

- Professor Maurice Jay (France)
- Mr Lars-Åke Gustavsson (Sweden)
- Dr Stefan Wagner (Romania)

For the following Regions there was only one candidate for each. A ballot was not necessary and the following were elected on a show of hands:

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| North American Region: | Mrs Marijke Peterich |
| Australasia: | Mrs Margaret Macgregor |
| Central Asia: | Mian Zafar Iqbal |
| Far East: | Mr Takamasa Tsuge |
| Africa: | Mrs Sheenagh Harris |

South America: There were two candidates: 1. Mrs Isa Maria Bozzolo (Chile) and 2. Mrs Susan Roberts (Argentina). The deciding vote rested with the Uruguayan Rose Society and its delegate, Mrs Mercedes Villar declared her Society's choice for Mrs Bozzolo.

6c. President:

There were two candidates: 1. Dr Gérald Meylan (Switzerland) and Lt. Col. Shakoob (Pakistan). There were also 5 postal votes received by the Secretary and handed to the scrutineers, these votes were from the following member countries: Argentina, Austria, Chile,

Luxembourg and Israel making a total of 30 possible votes. The scrutineers handed the result of the secret ballot to the President who asked both candidates to stand and join him. The outgoing President Dr Thomas Cairns declared Dr Gérald Méylan to be the new President of The World Federation of Rose Societies for the ensuing three years and up to the end of the 15th World Rose Convention in Vancouver in June 2009. Dr Méylan would be ceremoniously installed as WFRS Presidential at the end of Closing Ceremonies the next evening and would attend his first meeting as President at Executive Committee Meeting 2.

At the end of the elections the President suggested that the ballot papers be destroyed. This was agreed on the proposal of Mrs Macgregor, seconded by Mrs Peterich.

Item 7. Tribute to the retiring Secretary:

Dr Cairns reminded the members that Jill Bennell was retiring from this position although not from the Federation entirely. He then presented Mrs Bennell with a handsome gold watch from the Federation in appreciation of her work and particularly her support of five Presidents over 15 years. Members gave Jill and rousing 'send-off' with much applause.

Item 8. Introduction of the new Executive Director:

Mr Malcolm Watson was to take over from Jill Bennell with the new title of Executive Director. He needed little introduction, as he was very well known to most of the delegates having attended many Conventions and held high office in the National Rose Society of Australia and also in his local Society. Malcolm was warmly welcomed by the delegates.

Item 9. Any Other Business:

Dr Méylan said that the House of Meilland had received no less than 4 Hall of Fame awards over the years. Mr Alain Meilland wished to use the WFRS logo on the label of plants and in return the Federation would receive a commission from the sale of the plants. Dr Méylan said that this was a very generous offer and one to be followed up.

Dr Méylan also thanked the members for their confidence in voting him as the incoming President. He also thanked Lt Col Shakoor for his democratic and open minded approach to the election procedure.

Mr Gustavsson expressed concern at the allocation of Member countries to each Vice President. Included in his region were the obvious Scandinavian member countries, but he had no contact with the UK, Northern Ireland or The Netherlands also included in his region of Northern Europe. He was reminded that the European Vice President had hitherto decided amongst themselves on the allocation of countries and suggested that this be discussed at the Executive meeting the next day.

End

Rose Festival in Islamabad

Mian Zafar Iqbal, WFRS Vice President for Central Asia

Pakistan National Rose Society (PNRS) is a non-political and non-profit NGO dedicated to the cause of promotion of rose cultivation and rose culture in the country. Having a significant share in the history of most civilizations; rose is the most popular and loved flower the world over. With its many shades, species and varieties, the rose possesses a botanical kingdom of its own, which is very different from other plant species. Though, king of flowers but Greek poetess Sapho, bestowed it with the title of "Queen of Flowers," and till today it is known by the same name. It was thus to pay homage to this wonderful gift of God that many countries began making their National Rose Societies which eventually culminated into the creation of the World Federation of Rose Societies (WFRS) with 37 countries as its member. Pakistan National Rose Society is also an active and popular member.

It is with in view of this vigor to serve the rose that each year, in April, when roses are in full bloom, a Rose Festival is arranged by the Society in Hotel Marriott, Islamabad. Over the years, this Festival has become an integral part of the cultural calendar of the Capital city. Such significance has this Festival acquired that it is eagerly awaited by the residents of the twin cities the whole year and attracts a large crowd from the moment it is opened to the public till its conclusion in the evening.

Being an annual event, the Rose Festival has played a vital role in attracting people's attention towards roses and in inspiring them to make it fundamental ingredient of their homes and gardens. Some basic highlights of our festival are:

1. Display of cut flowers (roses) of all varieties available in Pakistan, brought by members of the Society from Lahore, Faisalabad and Pattoki.
2. Exhibition of innovative flower arrangements made by our experts, ladies of the embassies, schools and college girls.

This year's Rose Festival served as a double delight for the rose lovers as along with the usual attractions it also

showcased the launching ceremony of Dr. Mahmooda Hashmi's (Advisor/Past-President and life-time Editor of "Pakistan Rose Annual") much-anticipated book, "*Indigenous and Wild Roses of Pakistan*". This book, which is the first book on the subject of the indigenous and wild roses of Pakistan, written by anyone in Pakistan was greatly appreciated by the eminent rosarians. The book highlights the wealth of indigenous (desi gulab) and wild roses of Pakistan as well as its age-old rose culture and their various traditional and contemporary uses in the country. It also sheds light on the demand of and export of rose-related items and rose petals outside the country. Owing to its groundbreaking nature, "*Indigenous and Wild Roses of Pakistan*," has already been nominated to receive the WFRS Literary Award to be decided at the next World Rose Convention to be held in Canada in 2009. Our Society takes great pride in Rose Festival and we assure all rose lovers that our function will be befitting of our beloved country.



Mian Zafar Iqbal and Dr. Mahmooda Hashmi with Mayor Seki at Closing Ceremonies.

Use of Genetic Modification Techniques in Rose Breeding "The Birth of Blue Roses"

By Yoshikazu Tanaka, and Yukihisa Katsumoto, *Institute for Advanced Research, Suntory Ltd., Osaka, Japan* and John Mason, *Florigene Ltd. Victoria, Australia*

Introduction

More than twenty years have passed since development of the first genetically modified plants. Genetic engineering has opened the way for breeding totally novel plant varieties. Genetically modified plants are currently grown over 90 million ha of arable land world wide. This technology has been also used to improve the number of floricultural crops. For example, genetically modified blue carnations have been on the market for some years.

The two obvious advantages of plant breeding using genetic modification over traditional breeding methods using hybridization and mutation are:

- 1) genes from different living organisms, even those of totally unrelated species, can be used in breeding programs, and
- 2) specific characters can be engineered without sacrificing other characters. The advances brought about in molecular biology in recent years has led to the discovery of many useful genes. The application of these novel techniques has enabled us to modify roses genetically, too, and hundreds of new varieties with characters so far unknown - roses with perfect disease resistance, or those of ultra-high productivity, for example - are expected for introduction during the 21st century. However, in this article, the authors would like to focus the topic on the breeding of "blue roses" using this new technology.

Roses are Red

The rose is often referred to as the queen of flowers, and is among the most beloved of all flowering plants. It is often pointed out that in countries with European cultural background the frequency of the rose appearing in poems is by far the highest of all the flowers. A popular rhyme on love, supposedly for St. Valentine's Day, goes: Roses are red, Violets blue, Sugar is sweet, And so are you. indicating that roses are typically red flowers. English dictionaries define "blue rose" as something from another world, or as something unattainable. "Blue rose" is, so to speak, a synonym of the impossible.

Why Doesn't a Blue Rose Exist?

It is known that among the common pigments found in flowers are flavonoids and carotenoids. Of these pigments, flavonoids comprise the most important components of the color spectrum: pale yellow to red to blue. They also bear the function of protecting the plants from ultraviolet rays and from stress, and now they are receiving attention for their antioxidation effects as health-improving agents.

The group of flavonoids which are responsible for flower colors are generally termed anthocyanins. Chromophores which are derived from anthocyanins by removal of their saccharides are called anthocyanidins, and in spite of the wide variety of observable flower-colors and diversity of anthocyanin structures, there are basically only three kinds of anthocyanidins:

Pelargonidin, a pigment responsible for orange/vermillion-red colors,

Cyanidin, a pigment responsible for red-magenta/crimson colors, and

Delphinidin, a pigment responsible for violet to blue colors.

Rose petals contain pelargonidin and cyanidin, but not delphinidin. This is the basic reason why there are no rose varieties with blue flowers. The authors have been engaged in research aimed at creating blue-flowered varieties of roses by endowing this plant with the ability to produce delphinidin. It is true that there some flowering plants exist, morning glories, for example, which can

produce blue flowers without containing delphinidin. However, reproducing their mechanisms in roses would necessitate engineering of some rather special pathways. We consider that finding the ways to accumulate delphinidin in petals is the shortest route for creating varieties of blue roses.

How Flower Colors Are Determined

Figure 1 shows the biosynthesis of flavonoids, including anthocyanins. This is, so to speak, the blueprint for flower color for all plants, and by artificially increasing or decreasing the genes responsible for the production of enzymes shown in the figure, we can manipulate the structures and amounts of flavonoids accumulated in flowers, and thus can expect to change color.

How Can Blue Flowers Be Created?

The key enzyme for producing delphinidin is flavonoid 3', 5'-hydroxylase (F3'5'H). The gene responsible for producing this enzyme is commonly referred to as the "Blue Gene". We may say that roses, carnations, and chrysanthemums cannot produce delphinidin in their petals because they do not carry a functional "Blue Gene". This means that if we can isolate the "Blue Gene" from some blue flowers accumulating delphinidin, and transplant it into a rose or carnation, delphinidin will be synthesized within these flowers, enabling these plants to produce blue flowers. This, however, is a process which cannot be attained by means of traditional hybridizing methods. The only way to achieve delphinidin production in these flowers is to use biotechnology, involving genetic modification.

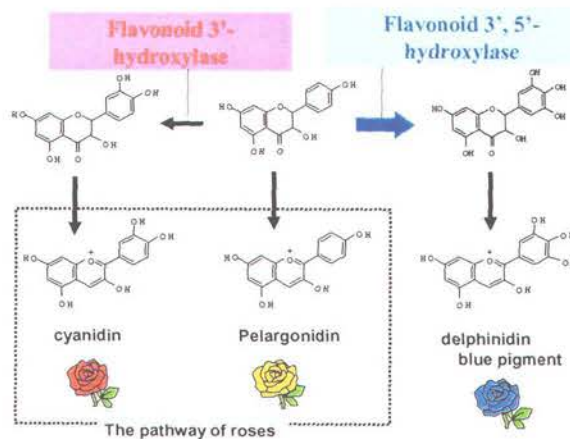


Figure 1. Flavonoid Biosynthesis Pathway

Birth of Blue Carnations

In 1990, Suntory Ltd., in cooperation with Florigene Ltd. in Australia, started a project for creating blue roses. In 1991, they succeeded in isolating the "Blue Gene" from petunia. In 1995, they created a violet blue variety of carnation in which this "Blue Gene" lead to 100% delphinidin in its flowers. Christened "Moon dust", this carnation was put on sale in Australia in 1996 and Japan in 1997. At present, the production of this carnation and its related blue carnations (Moon series) as flower business is well under way, particularly in North America, and Moon series is now gaining popularity in Europe and Australia, too.

Roses Are Obstinate

It was duly expected that the same process could be applied to roses, and by introducing the "Blue Gene" into them, delphinidin would be accumulate, resulting in rose varieties with blue flowers. However, the project did not go so smoothly. First, it turned out to be extremely difficult to introduce new genes into roses. We had to spend years in developing an appropriate transformation process (the process of introducing a new gene into rose cells, then selecting only the cells with these genes, and finally re-developing these selected cells into a complete plant.

After years of hard work, we succeeded in establishing the technique for introducing new genes into roses, and started by introducing the "Blue Gene" from petunia into roses. However, no blue flowers appeared on these rose bushes; worse still, we found that no delphinidin was produced in their flowers.

We then applied the same process to different plants with blue flowers: we extracted "Blue Genes" from gentian, butterfly pea, lavender, and pansy, and introduced them into roses, and awaited flowering. We found that only the gene from pansies functioned satisfactorily, though we do not yet know why. The "queen of flowers" seems to be difficult to please. When we introduced the Blue Gene from pansies into a red rose, which was producing cyanidin, it turned out that delphinidin had amounted to almost 70% of its anthocyanidins. The remaining cyanidin, however, still accounted for more than 30 %, and the flower did not look blue.

In Pursuit of Blue

In an attempt to heighten the percentage of delphinidin and to attain a "blue to our eyes" color, we screened numerous rose varieties. There are different varieties of roses, and different varieties come from different genetic backgrounds. Depending on the recipient's genetic background, the amount of delphinidin accumulation varies. Also, when delphinidin is accumulated, how blue a flower looks also differs among different varieties. We looked for "promising" varieties from among roses on the market and also from among those on the trial by the Keisei Rose Co. Finally we selected over 40 varieties to work with and introduced in them the various genes we have identified as necessary to production of an appropriate delphinidin derivative. Out of a total of over 10,000 different lines of gene-modified roses, we succeeded in obtaining some lines with almost 100% delphinidin. Since this variety also had a blue color not observed in traditional "blue" roses, we announced the birth of "Blue Rose" in 2004.

Prospects for the 21st Century

Because it is transgenic, this "blue" rose, as is stipulated in "the law concerning the protection of biological diversity by regulating the use of genetically modified organisms" (in accordance with the Cartagena Protocol), must be tested for its

possible effects on biological diversity - more specifically, its effects on wild roses native to Japan - before its general release for production and sales is officially approved. At present, we are planning on putting the rose on sale sometime within 2007. The annual production of cut roses in Japan reaches 500 hundred million, and rose nurseries are operating in many locations, but we have never heard of any undesirable effects on wild roses. We do not consider that the cultivation of genetically modified roses, including the ones we have created, will exercise any remarkable influence on native wild roses.

As to the color obtained by GM techniques, we are not satisfied with the present result (bluish violet). The 2004 version of

the blue rose is simply the prelude to a long story. Besides the "Blue Gene", we have obtained several genes responsible for the blue color of flowers. We are continuing our efforts to create even bluer roses, fully utilizing these genes.

The fundamental difference between our blue rose and traditional ones raised by crossbreeding is that ours has an accumulation of delphinidin in its petals. We have ascertained that this new character is inherited by the next generation. Rose breeding so far has been attempted using only pelargonidin, cyanidin, and carotenoids responsible for yellow colors. From now on, a blue pigment delphinidin, never used in rose breeding, is going to be added to the list of usable pigments.

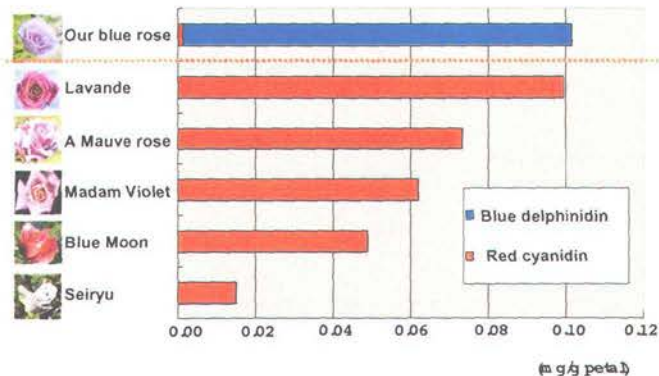
Until the end of the 19th century, yellow roses, just like blue roses, used to be a rosarians' dream. A breeder's efforts over fifteen years to transplant into garden roses the characters of yellow species roses native to the Middle East resulted in the birth of orange-yellow 'Soleil d'Or'. Then the breeding of yellow roses developed at an explosive pace, and 'Soleil d'Or' became a legend as a rose which played a epoch-making role in the history of rose breeding. When the blue rose from Suntory/Florigene comes to play the role of 'Soleil d'Or' in the 21st century, what new colors will be seen in our roses? We are waiting for the outcome with joyful expectations.

In the language of flowers, the blue carnation 'Moon dust' means "Eternal Happiness". We hope our blue rose, too, will become a symbol of peace and happiness for people all around the world.

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Figure 2. Creation of "Blue Rose"



EDITOR:

This excellent article on the scientific development of blue roses was taken from the "WFRS Triennial Report on Roses 2006" presented to all delegates attending the 14th World Rose Convention in Osaka, Japan, May 11-17, 2006.

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MEMBER SOCIETIES

The World Federation of Rose Societies is the international organization for 37 National Rose Societies around the world representing more than 100,000 individuals who share a love of the rose.

- AGENTINA: Rose Society of Argentina
AUSTRALIA: National Rose Society of Australia
AUSTRIA: Osterreichische Rosenfreunde Garten-Gesellschaft
BANGLADESH: National Rose Society of Bangladesh
BELGIUM: Societe Royale Nationale 'Les Amis de la Rose'
BERMUDA: Bermuda Rose Society
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GREECE: Greek Rose Society
INDIA: Indian Rose Federation
ISRAEL: Israel Rose Society
ITALY: Associazione Italiana della Rosa
JAPAN: Japan Rose Society
LUXEMBOURG: Letzeburger Rousefrenn
NETHERLANDS: Nederlandse Rozenvereniging
NEW ZEALAND: National Rose Society of New Zealand
NORTHERN IRELAND: Rose Society of Northern Ireland
NORWAY: Norwegian Rose Society
PAKISTAN: Pakistan National Rose Society
POLAND: Polish Society of Rose Fanciers
ROMANIA: Asociatia Amicii Rozelor din Romania
SLOVAKIA: Rosa Klub Zvolen - Slovakia
SLOVENIA: Slovenia Rose Society
SOUTH AFRICA: Federation of Rose Societies of South Africa
SPAIN: Asociacion Espanola de la Rose
SWEDEN: Swedish Rose Society
SWITZERLAND: Gesellschaft Schweizerischer Rosenfreunde
UNITED KINGDOM: Royal National Rose Society
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: American Rose Society
URUGUAY: Asociacion Uruguaya de la Rose

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JAPAN: Hana no Miyako Gifu for
The Promotion of Flowers & Greenery.
SCOTLAND: Scottish Sweet Pea, Rose & Carnation Society
UNITED STATES: Ashdown Roses Ltd

IN MEMORIAM

Colin Horner, DHM

It was a cold December day but the lovely old parish church at Stansted Mountfitchet was filled to capacity - by those wishing to remember and honour a remarkable man. Born not far away in the small village of Manuden, Colin spent his childhood and much of his working life in that part of Essex. In such a quiet rural backwater, like many country boys, he studied much of the natural life which surrounded him. He became a knowledgeable bird watcher and had the most astonishing ability for recognising bird calls and immediately identify their source. He knew the creatures of the countryside and his family has many happy memories of his extensive knowledge and of the plants, insects and animals that he had kept and loved.

As he grew up, the village lad naturally joined in the sporting pursuits of the area. In particular, he was a fine cricketer and the game became one of his abiding loves throughout his life. With marriage to his teenage sweetheart Heather and a young family, his interest focused on roses - an interest which developed from the late 1960s into a passion. For him, the rose was truly the Queen of Flowers and a natural consequence of this was membership of the Royal National Rose Society. Encouraged by the late E (Ted) Allen DHM, his interest in rose breeding widened and in 1975 he was one of the founder members of the Amateur Rose Breeders Association. For twelve years he was its Chairman - a steady hand guiding its aims, its work, its publications and its trials. As ARBA Chairman he was noted for his great sense of fairness and his generosity with budwood from his promising seedlings.

This eminent rosarian was subsequently elected to the Council and later, the Board of Directors of the RNRS, of which he became Deputy President and then served from 1999-2000, as its President. These were testing times for the Society but Colin kept things on an even keel, whilst foundations were being laid for the resurgence of the Society and the modernization of its gardens. It should be remembered that he bore this heavy load as well as holding a responsible position with Essex County Council.

Despite the undoubted strain of this period in his life, Colin found solace as always in his beloved family and his rose breeding. In all, he won over twenty awards from the RNRS, including that of the coveted Torrridge Award, for the best award-winning rose submitted by an amateur. This record will surely never be surpassed, although in one single year, he, Heather and his son Calvin all won RNRS trial awards, in itself a most notable family achievement.

Colin's well developed sense of humor and open nature helped him make friends and he had these in abundance, across the world. His best friend, of course, was his wife, Heather whom he loved and cherished for over fifty years. Heather was, in turn, his loyal supporter and stay throughout their long and successful marriage. Colin has left us all a fine legacy - his beautiful roses. 'Champagne Cocktail', 'Golden Future' and many others will give gardeners pleasure for years to come and the news that one of his seedlings had carried off the top honours in the 2005 RNRS trials must have brightened his last days.

There can be no more suitable memorial for a truly English gentleman.

Ken Grapes, DHM

Lionel Lawrence

[1926-2006]

On Tuesday, May 23, 2006 family and friends of Lionel Lawrence gathered for a service of thanksgiving and celebration of his lifetime achievements. In particular, tribute was paid to Lionel's passion for roses. Member of the Rose Society of Victoria for 57 years, 28 years were spent in service to the RSV as member of the Advisory Council including 15 years as Vice-President. Lionel was editor of the Australian Rose Annual between 1964 and 1974 producing 11 superb annuals over that period. In 1968 Lionel was awarded the T.A. Stewart Memorial Award for his contribution to The Rose as editor of the annual. He was a fervent supporter of the establishment of the World Federation of Rose Societies and was the first Australian delegate at the inaugural WFRS convention in Hamilton NZ in 1971. At this convention Lionel was appointed to the Publications Committee and went on to chair this committee from 1976 to 1982.

Lionel and his wife Win travelled overseas to many WFRS Conventions and gathered rose friends worldwide. Many of these enjoyed the generous hospitality of Lionel and Win when visiting Melbourne. As an exhibitor Lionel was very successful and exhibited regularly at RSV and National Rose Shows being awarded Champion Rose of the Show on many occasions, the most recent being the RSV Autumn Show in April this year when he ignored his deteriorating health to exhibit for the last time. Lionel was awarded Champion Rose of the Show for a magnificent bloom of the HT rose 'Tineke'. Lionel had a remarkable record of service to and passion for The Rose over more than 50 years and will be remembered with affection and respect by all who knew him.

Margaret Macgregor

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