



NASHVILLE ROSE LEAF

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



MAY 2009

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

Volume 43, Issue 4

May 5th NRS Meeting at Cheekwood

6:00 - 6:45 pm Beginner Program Marty Reich - Rose Pests

6:30 pm Refreshments & Silent Auction

7:00 pm Speaker Alan Windham - TN Rose Trials



March Rose of the Month

Lynn Anderson

Hybrid Tea 1993



Photos courtesy of Weeks Roses

Photo courtesy of Dollywood Publicity

By: Glenda Whitaker

When a rose comes along and the viewers exclaim "Oh My God," there must be something special and worthy of such praises. The expression became a synonym for this pink blend hybrid tea developed by Joseph Winchel, until the rose was selected to be named *Lynn Anderson*.

Arriving with her publicist at one of our Nashville Rose picnics, held in the garden of Mona and Louis Mishu, music legend Lynn Anderson was welcomed to the event. Stating that ever since she recorded her famous gold record "Rose Garden", and sang those words "I beg your

pardon, I never promised you a rose garden," she had wished for a rose to be named for her. At that time, NRS member Bob Whitaker was serving as President of the American Rose Society who quickly followed up with Tom Carruth, chief hybridizer of Weeks Roses. Tom indicated he could send slides of yet unnamed roses from which to choose. Viewing the slides, a cream finely edged with deep pink rose immediately caught Lynn's eye. Tom had already briefed Bob on the growth habit of strong, long stems clothed all the way down with huge green leaves to "create a formal gown for this country lady." Reiterating the exclamatory phrase of those who had seen the high

centered, very tall, upright beauty in test gardens, this made a further impression, helping Lynn to finally choose this spectacular new rose by hybridizer Joseph Winchel.

A formal presentation was made to Lynn Anderson in the Whitaker rose garden with NRS members John Brevard, Jerry Brinkley, Lynne Wallman, and Bessie and Cecil Ward in attendance. Bob presented Lynn Anderson with an honorary membership in The American Rose Society on this occasion.

(Cont'd on page 6)

May Rose Tips

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

I have a tip for planting the own root roses that come in the small 2 to 3 inch size pots. I like to plant those in a one gallon nursery pot with Pro-mix potting soil with a handful of Mills Magic mixed in. When they start to grow good, add Bloom-Kote to the top of the soil and continue to water well. Plant in the ground, or bigger pot after roots grow out of the bottom of pot. This really gives them a good start compared to planting straight into the garden.

— Doyle Clark, NRS Member

Your miniatures may look happy and unscathed by winter, but give them a trim anyway. They will look and bloom better later on.

— Marty Reich, ARS Master Rosarian

(ROM Cont'd from front cover)

It was an exciting time for all. Lynn was sporting a great big brimmed hat over her long blonde hair and an impressive U.S. Marine Corps pin in her suit lapel. The pin was an honorary gift to her when she helped the Marines with a major recruiting effort. Sharing this story recently with Jim and Starla Harding, Starla recalled how her own dad had been responsible for this particular recruiting, saying it had been one of the most successful efforts the Marines had experienced. (Starla admits driving her family crazy singing "Rose Garden" constantly at the time!)

The chosen **Lynn Anderson** rose was so new that it took two additional years to produce enough plants to introduce to the market. Weeks Roses introduced this beauty in 1995, which quickly became a hit in rose gardens across the country, gracing many rose show tables with "Queen" quality.

A few years later, a highlight of our 1999 American Rose Society National Convention was a rousing program of music for convention attendees at the Ice Cream Social headlined by Anderson in the spacious Delta lobby of the Opryland Hotel. The crowd loved her as she began singing "Rose Garden" and interacted with the receptive audience just outside the rose show ballroom. Lynn was presented a Bloomsaver full of **Lynn Anderson** roses--quite an impressive sight, just like the lady herself. Her hour-long program was a gracious gesture on her part to show appreciation for the **Lynn** NASHVILLE ROSE LEAF, MAY 2009

Anderson rose and the part Nashville Rose Society had in its naming.

At an earlier time, Lynn presented the American Rose Society a framed copy of her "Rose Garden" gold record to be auctioned off in a fundraiser to benefit the ARS. Yours truly had the winning bid and the gold record now resides in the Klima Rose Center of The American Rose Society. Look for it in 2010 in The Whitaker Hall of Honor, when Shreveport, LA. will again host the ARS National Convention.

The **Lynn Anderson** rose joins other Joseph Winchel hybridized roses in the famous category: **Dolly Parton** (1984), **Louise Estes** (1991), **Rosie O'Donnell** (1998). **Crowd Pleaser** was discovered as a sport of **Lynn Anderson** and introduced in 2000.



Lynn Anderson at the Opryland Hotel with a bouquet of Lynn Anderson and Louise Estes roses.

Photo courtesy of Robbie Tucker

Remembering Alan Shew

By: Charles Lott

Dependable, dedicated, quiet, friendly, and faithful are some of the words that accurately describe rosarian Alan Shew. After Alan and Janet moved to Nashville one of their early involvements was with Nashville Rose Society. Soon after joining the rose society they volunteered to be in charge of the welcome table at monthly meetings. The smiling faces of Alan and Janet (along with her beautiful hats) that greeted everyone who ventured into an NRS meeting, became a trademark symbol for the warm hospitality you could expect during the remainder of the meeting.



Janet & Alan Shew welcoming members and guests at an NRS Meeting.

Photo courtesy of Charles Lott

When the American Rose Society sponsored a quilting contest in 2005, Glenda Whitaker sought out master quilter Janet to lead the effort for a Nashville Rose Society entry. The NRS entry made under Janet's leadership was awarded "Best of Show" in the team category in the national contest and a certificate was presented to Janet and other team members at the ARS National Convention in Shreveport, Louisiana, April 27, 2005.

As their involvement in Nashville Rose Society increased, so did the size of their rose garden. The rose garden at the Shew's beautiful home in Kingston Springs now contains more than 50 roses. .

Following recent surgery for pulmonary fibrosis and a brief hospital stay Alan passed away at their home March 22, 2009. Alan and Janet recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. He will be missed by Nashville Rose Society and all whose lives he touched. Memorial contributions may be made to Nashville Rose Society (see page 7), ARC of Davidson County, or Alive Hospice of Nashville.