1998

The Carol Marie McLeod Memorial Walkway Dedication Ceremony

Clemson University

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The

Carol Marie McLeod Memorial Walkway
Dedication Ceremony

The sixth day of June
Nineteen Hundred and Ninety-Eight
At two o'clock in the afternoon

At the Caboose
The Carol Marie McLoed
Memorial Walkway

Presentation Copy

for

James O. Sweeny
Chairman,
Class of ’39 Heritage Gardens Committee
Program

WELCOME

Dr. Walter T. Cox
President Emeritus, CU

INVOCATION

William B. Zeigler
Secty., Heritage Gardens Committee

INTRODUCTION

Dr. Walter T. Cox
President Emeritus, CU

THE MCLEOD FAMILY

Benjamin F. McLeod
Class of '39

DEDICATION

James O. Sweeney
Chmn., Heritage Gardens Committee

PRESENTATION TO THE UNIVERSITY

Dr. Taze L. Senn
Pres., Class of '39

ACCEPTANCE

Dr. Constantine W. Curris
President, Clemson University

APPRECIATION

Dr. John W. Kelly
Director, S.C. Botanical Garden
Carol was born on January 9, 1926 on Long Island, New York. A carefree childhood was prematurely interrupted when she was orphaned at only 12 years of age. Carol had an older sister and a younger brother, from whom she was separated when she went to live with her aunt and uncle. Following High School, Carol attended Manhattan Business School. She was a very bright and apt pupil, excelling in grammar, spelling and music - attributes that helped her gain employment as a secretary with PanAmerican Airways in New York City. It wasn’t long before she became secretary to PanAm’s Vice President and Chief Engineer.

At a Christmas party in 1946, Carol met Benjamin Franklin McLeeod, an up and coming PanAmerican employee. Ben knew a good thing when he saw it - and so did Carol. They were married in March of 1948. A year later, Carol gave birth to Ben III, and two years later to son Thomas Allen. Another eleven years passed before their third son, Scot Ellison, came along.

Meanwhile, Ben was moving up the ladder in PanAm, having begun as a Junior Engineer, but shortly becoming Manager of Radio Engineering and Maintenance in the Atlantic Division, then Director of Electronic Development, and finally Vice President for Communications in 1970. During this time, which saw Ben traveling extensively to PanAm’s far-flung operational centers, Carol ably managed the job of raising their three sons, helping instill in them those solid qualities that characterized Ben and Carol. She joined them in their physical development, playing football and baseball with them during their formative years, but never neglecting their intellectual and spiritual development.

Carol Marie McLeeod was one of those fortunate multi-talented females. She was good at fixing mechanical things, she easily functioned as housewife and helpmeet to her husband Ben, she taught Sunday School, played the role of den mother for cub scouts, made friends easily, and was loved by all who knew her. When possible, she attended the reunions of the Great Class of 1939 with Ben - and with Ben was instrumental in contributing to the activities of the class.

Carol died on March 22, 1993. She is missed.
THE MCLEOD BOYS
CAROL’S BOYS

The picture at left, taken in the Andes at Machu Picchu, Peru in 1997, shows Carol and Ben’s three sons. They are, from right to left, Ben III, Tom and Scot.

Benjamin Franklin McLeland III is 49 years old. He attended Georgia Tech, receiving a degree in Electrical Engineering in 1971. He is married to Debbie Arnold, and they have a four year old daughter, Shannon Marie. Ben III is a Director in Allied Signal’s Avionics Division. He currently lives in Deerfield Beach, Florida, but the family will shortly be moving to Seattle, Washington, so that Ben can be closer to the Boeing plant, a major customer of the Avionics Division.

Thomas Allen McLeland is 48 years old. He attended Florida State University for his pre-med studies, and received his PhD in Medicine from Miami University in 1975. Tom specializes in General Surgery in Spartanburg, SC. He is married to Terri Kato, who is an OR nurse at the Spartanburg Regional Medical Center. They have two boys, David and Sean, and two girls, Summer and Emilie.

Scot Ellison McLeland is 36 years old. He received his BS degree in Management from Georgia Tech in 1984. Scot is married to Laurel Meaders, who has been kept busy raising their three sons, Michael, Spencer and Trevor. Scot is a Director of Marketing for the BT Squared (Better than Being There) software company, based in Atlanta GA, where Scot and Laurel make their home.
THE CLEMSON HERITAGE GARDENS

This project, still in its infancy, is an initiative of the Clemson Class of 1939. The purpose of the Heritage Gardens is to present a visual display of certain important elements of Clemson’s history, culture and traditions.

When completed, they will consist of the Caboose Garden (a special project of the Class of ’39, completed in 1997), the Cadet Life Garden (now under construction and jointly funded by Clemson’s Golden Tigers and the Class of 1942), the Founders Garden (currently seeking a sponsor), the Presidents Gardens (still in the design stage), and a small amphitheater - all located on about eight acres in the South Carolina Botanical Garden at Clemson.

In 1993, after several years spent in developing a basic concept, the Class of ’39 Heritage Gardens committee commissioned Ms. Lolly Tai, Associate Professor of Landscape Architecture in Clemson’s School of Architecture, to develop the design for major elements (excepting the Presidents Gardens) of the Heritage Gardens. This work was completed in 1994, in which year the Class of ’39 agreed to fund the Caboose Garden. Construction began in 1995 and was completed in 1996, and at its reunion that year the Caboose Garden was presented to the University. Later that year, work was begun on the Grand Entrance to the Heritage Gardens, also funded by the Class of ’39. This was dedicated in early 1997 in association with a groundbreaking ceremony for the Guardroom Bell structure - a gift of the Class of ’55.

Meantime, the Golden Tigers were raising funds for the Cadet Life Garden. Funding was assured when, in late 1997, the Class of 1942 elected to co-sponsor the garden. Work was begun in January 1998, with completion planned for 1999.

Thanks to the generosity of Ben McLeod, the connecting walkway between the Caboose and Cadet Life Gardens is now well under way, and should be completed this summer. The Heritage Gardens Committee extends its sincere thanks to Ben for making this possible.
THE CAROL MARIE McLEOD MEMORIAL WALKWAY

Connecting the Caboose Garden and the Cadet Life Garden, this 60 foot long trellised walkway was specially designed by Professor Lolly Tai to incorporate an architectural feature of great beauty into the design of the Heritage Gardens.

The twelve foot wide walking surface is paved with Tennessee Crab Orchard stone, from a quarry near Chattanooga. The ten foot high trellis is made of Western or Incense Cedar (Librocedrus decurrens) for its long-lasting and insect repellant qualities. The trellis is supported on twenty-two elegant stone columns. Sixteen of the columns flank the pathway, while six columns, located offset from the walkway, will support three swing seats. A selection of several different vines will eventually cover the trellis, providing dappled shade, color, and fragrance.

When Ben McLeod first saw the plans for the walkway during his class reunion in 1997, he felt that it would be a wonderful way to memorialize his beloved wife Carol, who had died several years earlier. And so this walkway is now dedicated to her memory. Ben has always been a strong supporter of Clemson, and especially of the many projects that have been undertaken by his class.
Class of '39
Heritage Garden Committee

Taze L. Senn, Class President
Henry E. Avent
William A. Carlisle
Walter T. Cox
Frank W. O'Neal
Elton W. Shepherd
Barham F. Thomson
Russell S. Wolfe
William B. Zeigler
James O. Sweeny - Chairman
The South Carolina Botanical Garden

Clemson University

Clemson, South Carolina