

**GAYE HAMMOND**

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Gaye Hammond, Past President of the Houston Rose Society, has served on the Board of Directors of that organization since 1999. She is a life member of American Rose Society, a Consulting Rosarian, a patron of the ARS South Central District and has been awarded the ARS Bronze Honor Medal for Outstanding Service. Gaye is also a member of the San Antonio Rose Society, the Texas Rose Rustlers and the Heritage Rose Foundation.

Gaye oversees the creation and maintenance of the two gardens at the American Rose Center in Shreveport, Louisiana, as well as the Houston Rose Society's Earth-Kind<sup>®</sup> Rose Test Garden in Pasadena, Texas and three scientific rose research trials in Navasota, Odessa and Burnet, Texas. One of these sites is sponsored and maintained by second and third graders from the Shady Grove Elementary School in Burnet, Texas. The excitement generated at Burnet ISD spurred Gaye on start similar projects at elementary schools in Houston, Lubbock and Bridgeport.

Besides roses, Gaye's passion is working with children. Her "herd" of grandchildren (who have all gardened since the age of 3) have been the impetus for her ability to bring the love of plants to little people and instill in them a sense of environmental stewardship and at the same time cultivate their self-esteem and decision-making skills.

Since 2002, Gaye has been the study liaison between the Houston Rose Society and Texas AgriLife Extension in connection with their Earth-Kind Rose Research Program, a scientifically significant research study that was originally designed to identify the most carefree disease resistant roses that would grow in Southern gardens. With the financial and other support that Gaye was able to secure, the Earth-Kind Rose Research Project has expanded to an international level and is perhaps the largest scientific environmental research study on roses ever conducted in the United States.

Young or old, teaching others about growing roses is Gaye's passion. Not only has she lectured throughout the United States and Canada, she is also an avid writer and her articles have been published in local, state, national and international magazines and newspapers. She has also co-authored a peer-reviewed journal article on Earth-Kind Roses published in 2009 in *Floriculture & Ornamental Biotechnology*.

### Short Synopsis

Gaye will explain how to use gardening to bolster a child's self esteem and cultivate their decision-making skills – while having a blast at the same time.

### *LECTURE SYNOPSIS*

## **THE GREAT GARDENING ADVENTURE THROUGH A CHILD'S EYES**

Presented by Gaye Hammond, Houston Rose Society  
National Earth-Kind Advisory Board

We all have a fond gardening memory. Perhaps the memory is that wonderfully scented rose growing by Grandma's porch, or maybe the sweet potato vine grown in a jar in elementary school, or just mucking around in the dirt for hours on end.

This program is designed for parents and grandparents as a way to help instill those eternal memories in their children and grandchildren. Gaye will use gardening to bolster a child's self esteem and cultivate their decision-making skills – while having a blast at the same time. She will share how she taught her "herd" of grandchildren to read and count through gardening, as well as some great fun projects to do with children that will keep them asking for more.

Come see how she has used "The Great Gardening Adventure" and "Roses Rock!" to establish gardening programs at elementary school programs in several Texas cities. Attendees will come away with a wealth of information including plant recommendations, recipes and activities that have been kid-tested and approved.

