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Rose Parade Board Chooses Brook Tauzer as Grand Marshall

Santa Rosa, CA (April 30, 2009) – The 2009 edition of the Rose Parade will be themed “Through the Decades” to showcase the music and events that have shaped our lives during the past 12 decades since the Parade began in 1894. In keeping with such a historically significant theme, the Board of Directors of the Luther Burbank Rose Parade have chosen Brook Tauzer as Grand Marshall for the 115th annual event on May 16th, 2009. While the event has been reconfigured this year due to economic difficulties, its historical significance and place in the annals of Sonoma County and Santa Rosa are set.

Brook Tauzer, a Santa Rosa native certainly knows a thing or two about history and the place of local institutions in it. When he retired in 1986, Tauzer had served as an instructor, administrator, dean, vice president and interim president for the Santa Rosa Junior College. His 31-year acquaintance with the college and its people forms the basis for his care and accurate recollection of the institutions history “through the decades.” Over the years, he developed one of the best instructional programs in the state for community colleges, along with a faculty to match this excellence. He gave his time, his expertise and his heart to the college. In addition to his dedication he was respected for his guidance, good humor, and constant encouragement. Brook Tauzer is truly “one of a kind.”

Born and raised in Santa Rosa, Tauzer attended Santa Rosa High School('44) then continued his education at Stanford earning a Bachelor of Art followed by his Masters. Back in Santa Rosa, he wed Gloria and they were married 51 years when she passed 5 years ago. They raised 3 sons who continue to reside in the area, and 1 daughter who lives in Washington. Tauzer, the “love-bug and gentleman” as described by his daughter Terry, continues to enjoy his time in Santa Rosa. The 82-year old loves to read, volunteer, walk his dog, and donate his time at St. Rose church. A well respected man throughout the community, his friends and family truly admire him and look forward to honoring him in this year’s parade.

As Grand Marshall of the 2009 Rose Parade, Tauzer will join a variety of floats, clowns, equestrians, marching bands and cars in this year’s procession. The parade will begin at E Street and Sonoma Avenue and turn down 4th Street ending at Courthouse Square, on Saturday, May 16, 2009. Last year more than 3,500 people and animals participated in the parade, more than 10,000 watched along the route and attended the Festival. The 114th Annual Parade was produced with over 250 volunteers, and more than 100 sponsors helping fund the event.

For more information and to volunteer or sponsor contact the Rose Parade office at (707) 542-7673 or online at www.roseparadefestival.com