

FILE NO. 190448

Petition

OF

Clara Carl Morrison

For designation of the White  
Rose as Seattle's official  
flower.

10/1/46 - file

FILED Sept. 9, 1946.

W. C. THOMAS  
CITY COMPTROLLER AND EX-OFFICIO CITY CLERK

BY *W. C. Thomas*, DEPUTY

ACTION OF THE COUNCIL

REFERRED	TO	TO	REPORT ADOPTED	C. B. ORD.	DISPOSITION
SEP 9 - 1946	Harbor & Public Grounds				ON FILE
REFERRED					
REPORTED			REPORT ADOPTED		
REPORTED			REPORT ADOPTED		
REF. FOR ORD.					
					OCT 7 - 1946

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

Mr. President:

Your Harbors & Public Grounds Committee

to which was referred the within Petition

would respectfully report that we have considered the same and respectfully recommend that

same be placed on file.

CHAIRMAN

*Powers*  
CHAIRMAN

# Rose Favored Because It's June-to-Christmas Flower

The pink rose is San Francisco's, the red rose is Portland's, so Seattle should adopt the white rose, is the opinion of Mrs. Clara Carl Morrison, president of the Seattle Poetry Club, who added a vote today for the rose as Seattle's official flower and enclosed a list of 54 members of the club and their friends, who are petitioning in favor of the white rose.

The City Council is considering changing the official flower from the dahlia, and The Times is conducting a poll to guide Council members in their choice.

"In case we cannot have the white rose, 'Only a Rose' will do," said Mrs. Morrison, borrowing the title from a well-known song.

"The white rose has a spirit and value that few other flowers possess," Mrs. Morrison said. "The dahlia blooms only for a season and as soon as it is severed from the main stock, it withers and droops. Such a symbol could not represent Seattle.

"The chrysanthemum blooms only in the fall—a season flower which cannot be obtained during the winter months, whereas the white rose can be had in all seasons of the year. If not in gardens, it always is available in greenhouses and at flower shops.

"The white rose blooms almost perennially in Seattle gardens and can be picked from June to Christmas. It has an aesthetic beauty unsurpassed by any other flower."

9th St.,  
Seattle 5, Washington

Clara Carl Morrison

September 7, 1946

Representatives of Seattle:

This is a plea for the WHITE ROSE as Seattle's official flower.

It is known that the chrysanthemum has the lead in votes through the

I am afraid it is because it is not known by many that

the official flower of Tacoma... Tacoma is bitterly indignant

being so hard for the "mum." They say that we stole their Mountain!

burglarise their flower... I have read numerous indignant comments

about this.. They even say the Seattle council should adopt the

it is red, and their faces should be red.. etc.. etc...

that I wrote for the Times paper,, about the white rose...

It respectfully submitted,

*Clara Carl Morrison*

Clara Carl Morrison, president of the Seattle Poetry Club..

P. S. I know of no other city which has chosen the white rose .

1012 East 69th St.,  
Seattle 5, Washington

Clara Carl Morrison

September 7, 1946

Dear Representatives of Seattle:

This is a plea for the WHITE ROSE as Seattle's official flower.

I see that the chrysanthemum has the lead in votes through the Seattle Times. I am afraid it is because it is not known by many that Chrysanthemum is the official flower of Tacoma... Tacoma is bitterly indignant that we are pulling so hard for the "mum." They say that we stole "their Mountain!" and now want to burglarise their flower... I have read numerous indignant comments in their papers about this.. They even say the Seattle council should adopt the carnation, because it is red, and their faces should be red.. etc.. etc...

Enclosed is what I wrote for the Times paper,, about the white rose...

Most respectfully submitted,

*Clara Carl Morrison*

Clara Carl Morrison, president of the Seattle Poetry Club..

P. S. I know of no other city which has chosen the white rose .

Seattle, Washington,  
Sept 27th. 1946.

City Council,

Dear Mrs. Powell,

In my conversation with you yesterday over the telephone, you told me the City Council would be meeting next Tuesday Oct 1st. to decide the choice for our city's official flower.

You suggested I write in with my idea before that time, so I am taking this time to write you and express my wish along with all that have given me their kind votes for a city flower.

To begin with, the idea of a white rose, originated with me. The rose was then trailing a poor third and my great love for the rose prompted me to enter the race and support it.

Knowing that Portland had the red rose and San Francisco the pink rose, I liked the idea of the white rose for Seattle as this would make the Pacific Coast all out for roses and there is just nothing to equal the rose.

I called the President of our Poetry Club Mrs. Clara Garl Morrison, and asked her if she liked the idea and she thought it lovely, so we got the Poetry Club to vote for the white rose and it went over so well that we have been working ever since for the white rose as all liked it so much.

I called Mrs. Ethelyn Miller Hartwich one of the state's finest poets, and she thought it wonderful and when I asked her to write a poem to Seattle's rose she said she would be delighted, and so she wrote "Seattle Rose" a very lovely poem to the white rose and I am inclosing a copy for your inspection.

The poem was so very beautiful I got Dick Kepplinger whom all know and love, our own Seattle commentator, to read it over KOMO which he did.

I bought the loveliest white rose I could find at Sullivan, Florist, and sent it out to Dick as a little thank you for good reading and remembrance.

The rose is a part of the pioneer history of Seattle and Mrs. Hartwich gave the beautiful story of the rose how Louisa Boren who married David Denny brought the seed from her garden and planted them on the Pacific Coast beside her cabin and how they grew there for 77 years at foot of Denny Way until lately they were uprooted. So I feel the rose is a tradition and Seattle should carry on with the rose. The seed were brought from Cherry Grove Ill.

Then followed the idea that Seattle be given the title, "City of Flowers" I was charmed with this idea, as Seattle has such a profusion of beautiful flowers, I think no where in America have we more beautiful, but it is also felt that still we should have the white rose as its official flower and let it be known when spoken or written of, as the "City of Flowers". I think this a most beautiful and fitting solution and all those who have been so kind to vote for the white rose think it is a wonderful idea to have the two. They like to think of the Pacific Coast for roses.

We could use it as our symbol in so many different ways and always to such good advantage. It could grace our trains, our banquets, be so official for our International affairs etc.

Seattle is destined to become one of the largest and most beautiful cities in the world being the gateway to the Orient and Alaska and with the Int. Peace Arch on her border and a War Memorial in view for the Coast, in view of such a colorful future she will always command respect and assume new dignity and she should have as her official flower, one as lovely and as inspiring as the rose, the white rose.

Portland has her red rose, and is known as "City of Roses" let Seattle have her white rose and be known as the "City of Flowers". All seem to like this combined idea so much better than any other so that I hope Mrs. Powell, the Council will decide in favor of this idea.

Mrs. Morrison, Mrs. Hartwick and myself have been working for the white rose and we do so want to see it win. I have turned in 1120 votes and how I have loved doing it.

I am the author of the patriotic song, "Goddess of Liberty" written to the Statue of Liberty and I wrote your official bond song for the state, "If You Love America" this for my country, and the white rose for my city, I work for

Sincerely yours, Mrs. Lucille Wonn, 603-37th Ave Seattle, Wash. now!

Seattle Rose.

When Nature first conceived a flower  
She smiled and made a rose;  
Its radiant whiteness caught the gleam  
As petaled satin glows.

Fit emblem of a city's dream,-  
A loveliness that grows  
From perfect bud to perfect flower,  
The White Seattle Rose.

Ethelyn Miller Hartwich.

Washington,  
1946.  
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the rose, the white rose.  
Portland has her red rose, and is known as "City of Roses" for Seattle  
have her white rose and be known as the "City of Flowers". All seem to like  
this combined idea so much better than any other so that I hope Mrs. Denny  
the Council will decide in favor of this idea.  
Mrs. Morrison, Mrs. Hartwich and I have been working for the white  
rose and we do so want to see it win. I have turned in 112 votes and how I  
have loved doing it.  
I am the author of the patriotic song, "Goddess of Liberty" written to  
the Statue of Liberty and I wrote your official bond song for the state, "If  
You Love America" this for my country and the white rose for my city I work for  
Sincerely yours, Mrs. Lucille Wann, 603-34th Ave.

Lovers of the white rose.

Mrs. Powell I would just like to mention where most of the votes I sent in were secured.

From members of the President's Forum and from the University of Washington's new President, Dr and Mrs. Raymond Allen.

Music and Art Units

The Seattle Civic Opera

Carl Bricken and members of the Seattle Symphony. Director of Seattle Symphony Mr. Bricken said it was the loveliest flower Seattle could possibly select.

Mr. Jules Radinsky Director of Park Symphony and members

Mr. Joseph Berst, Band Director from Victory Square and members band

Seattle Poetry Club

League of Western Writers

Greater Seattle Bird Fancier Club

Church members and minister

Post Office employes and postman

Gardeners

Grocery and Meat Market, Red & White, Mr. John Matson and sons Lake View

Olympic Hotel staff, elevator girls and bell boys and desk clerks

Sherman & Clay Music House.

Bartells and Owl Drugstores

Movie houses

Bank Presidents and members of different banks 1st National 92 Pacific Natl

Neighbors.

From all walks of Seattle, they have voted gladly and enthusiastically for the white rose and "City of Flowers"

Thank you very much.