

## October 11, 2011 AGENDA-NEWSLETTER Topeka\ Rose Society

Program Information

By: George Schureman, President

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**The Tuesday, October 11, 2011 TRS meeting will be held at the Topeka Shawnee County Library.** The meeting will start at 7:00 pm and conclude at approximately 9:00pm. The program will involve the membership and CR's discussing the successes and the failures we have experienced this growing season. Part of the program will deal with putting our roses to bed for the winter. The CR's are urged to attend and share their knowledge and experiences. This should help in fulfilling the CR requirements.

A big, **Thanks**, goes to Gil and Wanda Goodnow for allowing the TRS members to experience their hospitality and rural paradise. Their home is truly a place of peace and solitude. Besides that they have roses everywhere and more room to add beds. Speaking as one who is a townhome resident, who is confined to a patio and rules of an association, I am very envious.

CR Gil pointed out some roses that were more susceptible to black spot. CR George pulled up the Double Delight that developed Bacterial Crown Gall and showed that disease to those attending. Before the evening ended the members were invited into the Goodnow (activity building) and fine refreshments were had by all.

**FYI: Believe it-** The nomination committee has met. There are members who have volunteered to be 2012 TRS officers. *So, you can attend this meeting and not have to worry about being nominated for a 2012 TRS officer position (unless you want to add your name to the list).*

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The October rose growing points are:

1. Keep on with your routine spraying for black spot. Very important.
2. Keep your roses watered. The shorter days and lower temperature allow for less water to be used. However, this has been a dry fall.
3. Start making plans to winterize your roses. The average date for the first killing frost in this area is October 15.

### **ROSE ROSETTE:** Taken from the ARS Consulting Rosarian Manual

Rose Rosette is a serious disease that is showing up in different parts of the country, in particular the middle section of the United States. The exact cause of rosette is unknown, and it has been suggested that it could be a virus that is carried from plant to plant by mites, or the reaction of the plant to substances injected by blister mites. In either case, it is noticed on '*Irosa multiflora*' which is a common rootstock, and in some species like '*Rosa woodsii*'. The foliage on an affected plant will look like Witch's Broom; the leaflets looking distorted and wrinkled. Not to be confused with Spring Dwarf Virus. **Control:** There is no control once rose rosette is established in a plant. It is best to remove the plant before it spreads to other roses in your yard. Do not toss into compost.

Enclosed is the Parks October Rose Growing Tips. See you all at the library on 10-11-11.

Thanks,

George Schureman, CR

**PARKS ROSE GROWING CALENDAR**  
**OCTOBER**  
**Putting the garden to bed.**

1. Review articles on the methods and materials used to winter protect roses. Learn how to dry wrap roses so you can keep fresh roses in your refrigerator to enjoy in November and December.
2. Continue to cut roses for your own enjoyment but take shorter stems. The bush needs its foliage to continue the production of nutrients right up to the first hard freeze. As long as the leaves are green, they are contributing to the health of the plant.
3. In similar fashion, leave the longest canes possible on the bush because the plant stores its nutrients in the canes as well as in the roots. It will need these nutrients in the spring to send up new growth. Therefore, DO NOT prune back in October or November except as necessary to get the canes to fit under the rose cone.
4. Before applying any winter protection, pull off any diseased leaves and clean up the bed by removing fallen leaves, petals, weeds and other debris so insects and fungus will not have a place to spend the winter. As blooms age and are about to fall off, pull the petals off by hand so they won't litter the bed. Do not pull off or cut off the peduncle or calyx tube, let it form a hip, which signals the plant to go into dormancy.
5. Winter protection of roses is a must in Zone 5 of the U.S.D.A. Plant Hardiness Map. It should be applied THIS MONTH for it to be effective. According to a scientific study of weather temperatures in Topeka, KS, there is a 10% chance there will be a hard freeze of 28 degrees or lower by October 13. Therefore, if you don't have your winter protection applied by October 13, one year out of every ten you will be caught by a freeze and lose some of your roses if they are unprotected. The longer you wait, the worse it gets. If you don't have your winter protection by October 27, about the end of this month there is a 50 % chance you will lose some roses. If you wait until Veterans Day, November 11 nine out of every ten you will have a hard freeze by then and lose some roses. *See the John Parks article, "Spring and Fall Timing For Winter Protection" in the **November 1989** issue of the American Rose magazine.*
6. There are many methods and types of materials used for winter protection such as dirt, other organic materials such as leaves and straw, collars, cones, wrapping and other enclosures. All are quite effective. What method or materials are used is not nearly as important as the fact that winter protection is used. If the roses are not protected, they may die. It is as simple as that.
7. Which brings up the most important thing about winter protection is the timing. As said above, if roses are unprotected, they will die. If a hard freeze hits before you apply protection, they may die. The deeper the freeze, the more roses you will lose. It is like the barn door; the time to shut it is before the cow escapes. After the cow leaves it is too late to do any good.

*Note: This information is taken from the TRS 2002 Annual Directory/Yearbook with the approval of the author John Parks, AARS accredited Consulting Rosarian, deceased.*