



A Publication of the Bowling Green Rose Society

# Rosebuds

November 2020

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[www.bowlinggreenrosesociety.org](http://www.bowlinggreenrosesociety.org)

**Next Meeting**  
**November 8 at 2 pm**  
**Clearfork Baptist Church**  
**Fellowship Hall**  
**Program: Winterizing Roses**  
**Bob Jacobs & Members**  
**Refreshments: Linda Ford**  
**& Cynthia Dickinson**

## Winter Protection for Roses by Lynne Hammill, Consulting Rosarian

A hardy rose is one that has the ability to convert its cellular fluid to a form that won't freeze, "Rosy Anti-freeze" if you will. Without this ability, if the sap is still flowing up the canes when winter hits it will freeze - bursting the canes, leaving those ugly, dead splits we've all found.

**How do we stop that sap from flowing?** By allowing the plant to enter dormancy and rest for winter. While the animals put on their winter coats and we have our furnaces tuned up the rose is making its own preparation. It takes a couple of hard freezes, not frosts - we're talking below 32°F to trigger the plant's natural move into dormancy. At this point the sap will stop flowing, growth will stop and the leaves will brown and fall off.

**How do we make the rose go dormant?** There are a couple of ways to encourage dormancy in the rose. Primarily by not encouraging new growth after September. Stop fertilizing about early September especially growth stimulating, nitrogen rich products. Leave those seed heads/hips on the bush, they will signal the rose that it's time to go dormant. Stop pruning, pruning prior to that will just encourage the plant to set off new growth that will die with first freeze anyway.

**How do I get started?** The best way to aid a rose plant in surviving the winter is to keep it healthy going in. That means it has been well fed

all summer and all soil nutrients are in balance. It should be watered well. You want to continue your spraying program until leaf drop. A disease-free rose will be stronger going into winter - makes sense doesn't it? The rose beds should be cleaned of all rose debris to limit disease growth and over wintering of spores and insects. Mancozeb used for your final spray may help to kill any Blackspot spores that might try to winter over. Keep the beds weeded - weeds do not all go dormant and why should we feed and water them all winter. They do well enough on their own.

**Pruning?** The most common question I get every Fall is "Is it time to cut roses down to the ground?" NO! NO! NO! Why cut off canes you might save and be able to use come spring. The rose should not be pruned in fall until fully dormant and then limited to only what is absolutely needed. Feel free to cut away any obvious diseased or damaged canes. You can shorten the canes on all but climbers and only enough to prevent wind damage (or just enough to fit under rose cones if used). Leave all major pruning till spring.

**How do I protect them?** I recommend tying your rose canes together in early November while the plant is still green and flexible. This gives them support and readies them for whatever covering material you choose. Sometime in December, after the first couple of hard freezes

we need to mulch or mound the rose, covering the bud grafts, roots and lower canes of tender plants to protect them. This is one of the most important and most effective practices we can do. The most important factor in mulch is using a product that will insulate without remaining soggy and wet causing the rose wood to rot. Commonly used products include dirt, mulch such as pine bark, and straw. Oak leaves are wonderful as they will not mat down like other leaves; evergreen boughs work great as do pine needles when available.

The plants can just be mounded or I like to use collars to hold mounding materials in place. These can be purchased or cheaper yet, made at home from materials such as newspaper, snow fencing, chicken wire or hardware cloth. I've had great luck with a new find, plastic hardware cloth (½" square openings). This can be cut to size with an Exacto knife and secured with a length of coat hanger. Easy to apply and even easier to remove come spring - not to mention easy to store. Avoid pulling dirt and mulch from around the plant as that can uncover and expose the tender roots to wind and cold damage. Also you don't want to cover your plant with dirt or mulch that might harbor disease or insects left over from summer.

There are several ways to protect from wind damage. (continued p. 3)



## President's Corner by Ricky Lockhart, BGRS President

Hello fellow rose growers. I've really enjoyed my fall roses. I believe they were the best I have ever had. There is still so much new growth on them. I'm wanting to save the new canes with this freeze coming Sunday night and Monday. I bought a gallon of Vapor-Guard and sprayed Friday. I wanted to see if it would stop the freeze burn on the new growth. I will let you know at the next meeting.

We will have a short program on winterizing roses. Bob will start and let others tell what they are doing. We also need to talk about what we are going to do about the rose garden at the Extension Office. We will also elect new officers and discuss the Christmas dinner to be held at Federal Grove.

See you soon,  
Ricky



### INVITE A GUEST TO OUR MEETING!!

#### MONTHLY IN-CLUB COMPETITION—JUNE - NOVEMBER

The competition shall consist of **ONE entry in each** of the following classes: One bloom per stem, except for sprays. Groom and fill in tags as if entering a regular rose show. Exhibitors earn one point for each class entered, 3 points for 1st place, 2 points for 2nd place., and 1 point for 3rd place. The top scorer in horticulture and arrangements will be recognized at the December meeting.

**1 Single Bloom Hybrid Tea/Grandiflora**

**Class 2—1 Single Bloom Miniature**

**Class 3—1 Floribunda Single Bloom or Spray**

**Class 4—1 Shrub Single Bloom or Spray**

**Class 5—1 Specimen, Any Other Type**

**Class 6—1 Rose in a Bowl—any type of rose at any stage**

**Class 7—Arrangement—*Traditional line or line mass design—large or small roses***

*Class title: Be Thankful! (See page 5 for information on this design type)*



## BGRS Christmas Luncheon

December 4 ~ 4 pm at Federal Grove

Reservations must be made with Ann Jacobs  
by Sunday, November 29

If not canceled by December 1, you will be  
responsible for paying for the meal.





## Winter Protection for Roses *(continued from page 1)*

By extending your collars and mulch to about 12" you can provide protection to at least that much cane. You can protect the rose with frames or boxes of foam or insulating sheets made to completely enclose beds. Other methods include open top wraps of chicken wire, snow fence or burlap which are then filled with oak leaves.

Manufactured styrofoam rose cones are made for this express purpose. They come in several sizes to accommodate the size of the plant but.... be aware; probably no other subject creates as much discord among rose growers as does the "benefit" of rose cones. When using these, do not apply until the ground is frozen and make large holes around the top to allow air flow (to prevent mold growth and the greenhouse effect of warmer days). I personally have found them marginally helpful finding mold, premature growth, mice nesting, and freeze damage and off-season storage is a problem.

**Climbers and Ramblers?** Climbers and Ramblers have their own requirements. Canes should be secured to protect them from wind damage but again, not pruned (remember they bloom the next year on that old growth). Enclosing the whole plant with burlap, chicken wire or snow fence works fairly well if then filled with oak leaves or other suitable materials. Several layers of burlap alone can be sufficient for the hardier roses. Spraying exposed canes with anti-desiccants such as Wilt-Pruf may help.

**Container Grown Roses?** We can stretch our gardening zones by putting tender roses in pots and providing them extra protection. They do best if not allowed to freeze completely and can withstand some low temps if watered well and given adequate protection from wind. Most growers of potted roses recommend an attached garage. Cold enough for dormancy, but some protection from extreme cold. I've had good luck with gathering them together in my unheated pole barn where our horse hay is stored. Provides good wind protection and some temperature moderation from the hay. The potted rose will still need to be watered monthly thru winter.

**Tid Bits:** When selecting roses pay attention to key words –'Hardy', 'Canadian', 'Northern' etc. and purchase roses that will survive best in your circumstances. Own root roses are becoming more available. They may have a greater chance of winter survival than many grafted roses even with severe cane die back.

### Planting Tips

1. Placing the bud graft 2-3" below ground level will offer some additional protection.
2. Watch for low areas in your yard, they tend collect cooler, more stagnant air increasing risk of disease and cold damage.
3. Use your micro climates to your advantage. A southern wall will produce a bed that is at least one zone warmer than the rest of your yard. Tender hybrid teas may do well here while the tougher shrubs will do just fine in the colder more exposed areas.
4. Tender roses may not do as well in beds raised well above ground level.

**NO ROAD SALT:** Protect your rose beds from salt runoff from sidewalks, roads and patios.

From an "aesthetic angle", tender roses needing protection might be better in the back yard. Rose cones and burlap aren't necessarily fashion statements for the front yard - oh well.

Remember that new rose plants, (first year in ground) should be treated as very tender regardless of their adult status. Protect them, they are still babies.

Last thought. I truly believe that if you really love that Zone 7 rose, it's readily available and there's no way you will be able to protect it...grow it as an annual. I've paid \$25.00 for a pot of geraniums, why not a rose plant that will only last one year but that I will love just as much for that season?

*Editor's Note: Even though the author of this article lives in Michigan, the location where she lives is Plant Hardiness Zone 6a, the Detroit area is in Plant Hardiness Zone 6b, which is the same as our area of Kentucky so what she recommends can be applied to our rose gardens. This article won an ARS Award of Merit. It was first published in the November 2007 edition of Rose Lore, the newsletter for the Detroit Rose Society and appeared again in the October 2020 issue, Roman Kwarcinski, editor.*



## November in My Rose Garden by Mary Ann Hext, Master Rosarian

Fall is definitely here with our first freeze predicted for Sunday night. I am including two articles about winterizing roses in this issue and we will be discussing what we do at our November meeting. There are many methods of winterizing. Everyone has their own way; and each of us has to figure out what works best in our area and what does not work for us. Even though we are all live in the same area of Kentucky, each of us has own little microclimate, and we grow different rose varieties that are affected differently by our unpredictable winter weather.

- I am planning to spray for blackspot early Sunday morning; and until killing freezes begin to make my roses go dormant, I will continue to spray, as long as growth is evident. The healthier the roses are going into winter, the better chance they will survive without too much damage.
- I will be moving about 25 potted roses into the garage tomorrow afternoon before the freeze where they will stay until the temperatures are consistently warm enough to remove them.
- After temperatures have gotten down to the mid-20's a couple of times, I will cut back only my really tall bushes to about 4 feet and/or stake them. This is so the winter winds don't rock them back and forth creating a void space around the bush which allows rain water to fill in and possibly freeze, thus damaging or killing the bush.
- I do not prune my roses in the fall as that is a spring job for me; pruning stimulates new growth which will be damaged when we have freezing temperatures.
- I will also remove any unwanted bushes that I either don't want to keep or that did not perform well.
- In a few weeks after the leaves have fallen from all the trees, I will clean the beds to get rid of the dead leaves and debris.
- I have already checked my pH and added lime and sulfur where needed so my soil will be ready for spring fertilizers.
- Some rosarians pull all the leaves off their roses in the fall. I don't have time to do this; and most of them will fall off on their own anyway. If I can remember, I will use a dormant spray in January to kill any disease fungal diseases trying to overwinter on the bush or the soil around it.
- Sometime near the end of November, I will mound the soil up around the bud union and add additional mulch to the beds. For my roses grafted on fortuniana root stock, I will spread the mulch out to the drip line and make it 4-5 inches deep since these roots grow horizontally and not very deep.
- I will attend the November BGRS meeting to learn from the other members what else I might want to try to get my roses through the winter months.
- Before Christmas, I will get my roses ordered for replacing the ones I removed, the one or two that won't survive the winter, and possibly add several new ones, too.



ARS National Convention & Rose Show  
September 10-14, 2021 - Milwaukee, WI

### Save the Date!

Set aside September 10 -14, 2021, to attend the American Rose Society's National Convention and Rose Show in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Plan on arriving Friday to enjoy speakers and wonderful Milwaukee hospitality in a city identified in the 2018 Vogue as the "Midwest's Coolest City." They will have cold room storage for your roses as the Rose Show, featuring special Challenge classes, is on Saturday! Garden Tours will on Sunday & Monday. All of the convention speakers are ARS Klima award winners.

Click [here](#) for more information!





## Traditional Line and Line Mass Designs

Traditional designs stress smooth transitions and harmonious relationships in which similarities predominate over differences. Lines converge in a strong center of interest, a focal area. Forms progress logically in size and shape and adhere to a gradation of color. All Traditional designs emphasize natural lines of growth. The focal area is near the point of emergence. Plant material may extend over the container's edge. Fresh plant materials and naturally dried line materials should not be obviously abstracted. Actual balance and visual balance are important.

### Line Designs

- Linear patterns dominate
- The silhouette is open form and requires restraint in the amount of plant material used.
- Line compositions are naturalistic
- Flowers and foliage are pruned to clarify the line.
- Traditional lines are simple. The line may be vertical, horizontal, crescent, Hogarth (S) curve, zigzag.
- Creativity is shown in the choice and use of plant materials, line formation, colors, textures, and container.
- They have height and some width, but very little depth except in the focal areas.
- Are open silhouettes in space.
- Have length, strength and beauty.
- Show movement in one direction.

### Line Mass Designs

- Are an enhancement of Line designs
- The dominant line and the focal area are fortified with plant material, although the silhouette is open.
- They are naturalistic.
- The strongest part of the design is the roses in the focal area
- Dominant line has more plant material than a Line design
- May show gradual progression of bloom development
- Have length, width, and depth.
- Show gradation of size or shape
- May show gradation of color, tint or shade
- Have some closed space

—From Chapter 5 of the *ARS Guidelines for Judging Rose Arrangements*

Photos of winning line and line mass designs from district shows taken by M. A. Hext







## Winter Rose Care from "Rose Lore" newsletter for Detroit Rose Society October 2020

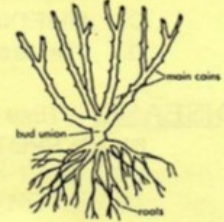
Traditional Line and Line Mass Designs

### WINTER CARE OF YOUR ROSES

Roses that have been properly cared for during the growing season are more likely to survive winter conditions than plants that have lost their vigor due to disease or nutrient deficiencies. Protect your roses by keeping the plants healthy and disease-free throughout the season.

In our cold northern areas where freezing and thawing alternate frequently, most roses need some measure of winter protection. Freezing temperatures and drying icy winds can cause the canes to dry out and die.

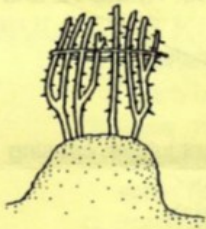
We always provide winter protection for the bud union of roses that have been grafted onto rootstock ... unprotected plants may lose this bud union leaving only the rootstock which produces an undesirable plant.



Before using any winter protection method it is important to remove all diseased foliage from the plant, and rake away all fallen leaves to prevent over-wintering of diseases such as blackspot, and apply a dormant spray to discourage future disease problems.

### COVERING YOUR ROSE BUSHES

If you aren't covering your rose bushes ... trim bush back to about four (4) feet, and tie the canes together to keep them from being wind-blown and loosening the soil around the base of the bush. Low pruning should be held to a minimum in the fall.



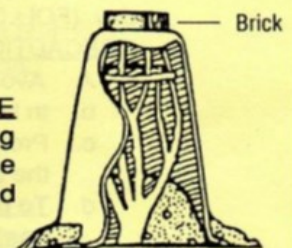
The most common means of winter protection is to hill soil around each bush to about 10" to 12". Prune back to about four (4') feet and tie the canes together with twine. The soil for this purpose should be brought in from another part of the garden.

Cylinders of wire mesh or commercial collars can be used to hold the hill of soil into place around the canes. Be sure the canes are tied together (it also makes filling the cylinders or collars easier to fill with materials.)



Bean hamper's or cone shaped baskets can be filled with OAK LEAVES and placed over the bush. Be sure to cut the rose canes back far enough to fit under the basket (it is also advisable to hill the soil first to cover the bud union). OAK LEAVES have the unique ability to breakdown without forming a slime or fungus on them, unlike maple and most other leaves.

Another more conventional method of covering rose bushes is the STYROFOAM ROSE CONE that are sold for this purpose. Generally prune rose bush about Mid-November. Cutting the rose canes back just far enough so that you can slip the cone over the plant easily (tie canes together). Rose cones need to be weighted down with a brick on top and soil heaped around the sides so the wintry winds do not tip cones over, helps to insulate roots, too,



Remove any winter protection material in the spring after all threat of frost is past but before new growth begins, taking care not to injure the plant. Insulation that is left on too long will injure roses by allowing moisture buildup and preventing air circulation.

One of the best protections against winter extremes is one that nature provides ... A THICK BLANKET OF SNOW.

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## Bowling Green Rose Society

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*We're on the Web!!*

[www.bowlinggreenrosesociety.org](http://www.bowlinggreenrosesociety.org)

# Happy Thanksgiving!



## ARS TRIAL MEMBERSHIP

The American Rose Society is offering a four-month trial membership for only \$10 to anyone who is interested in becoming a member of our organization. Most ARS members are home gardeners who enjoy growing roses and want to expand their knowledge of rose culture.

### Four-Month Trial Members receive:

- Free advice from Consulting Rosarians
- Free or reduced garden admissions, a \$25 value after just three uses
- Four issues of the online newsletter *Roses & You*
- Two issues of *American Rose* magazine, a \$16 value.
- Discounts of up to 30% at merchant partners

A 4-month trial membership is valued at \$86 for only \$10!

### Join Now!

You may [complete the online form](#) or call us at 1-800-637-6534.



## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



**Dan Wernig—November 12**  
**Osei Thomas—November 16**  
**Larry Baird—November 17**  
**Cindy Wernig—November 30**

## IMPORTANT DATES

- **May 22, 2021: Bowling Green Rose Show**
- **February ???: Tenarky Winter Workshop**  
TBA soon (possibly virtual meeting)
- **Sept. 10-14, 2021: ARS Spring 2021 National Convention "Cream City Roses", Milwaukee, WI**

## 2020 BGRS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



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