



Fall Newsletter

November 2019

OUR VISION

A world class rose garden where the community can enjoy and learn about roses.



Kansas City Rose Society's new 2020 Board of Directors



Yea John!

KCRS Board Secretary **John Riley** received the **American Rose Society Bronze Award** at the luncheon for his many contributions to the Rose Society. As **Garden Chair**, he led almost 25 volunteers each Thursday from May to September to dead-head the roses. John, a Consulting Rosarian, also gives tours of the garden stopping at the south end to talk about the Civil War. Be sure to ask John for a tour.



New and outgoing Board Presidents Martha Comment and Cyndy Price



Guests with Loose Park Director and Rosarian Judy Penner (center)

2019 Annual Luncheon

By Martha Comment

This year's luncheon featured beautiful fall flowers from **Bergamot & Ivy** and a delicious lunch at **Indian Hills Country Club**. Guests enjoyed the club's warm ambiance and the vitality of the members and guests. It's always a wonderful time to be together.

We welcomed new members into the Rose Society, which now boasts almost 250 members, along with

our new Board members and officers.

Guest speakers and architectural historians **Cydney Millstein** and **Carol Grove** shared the fascinating story of the landscape architects who designed the Loose Park Rose Garden in the

1920s. Father/Son team **Hare and Hare** were a prolific American landscape designers who also designed the garden behind the Walnuts Condos and the landscapes of the Nelson-Atkins Museum and the Liberty Memorial.

Time Capsule Mystery

There's a legend that a time capsule was placed in one of the Rose Garden pergolas. It was not found when the pergolas were redone in the late 1990s. So the mystery of the missing time capsule will be there for discovery in another decade!!

Central District Rose Show and Conference

By Co-Chairs John Riley and Laura Dickinson



We hosted the 2019 conference Sept. 13-15. There were 34 registrations and 17 exhibitors who brought roses to show from Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, and Nebraska. We had 355 stems and 44 photographs in the show. It was a perfect night for a BBQ picnic dinner and tours of Kansas City's Laura Conyers Smith Rose Garden. Thank you to everyone who helped make this event a success, including hosting, rose show clerking, meal organization, certificate writing and more. See the list of prize-winners and photos on our website at:

www.kansascityrosesociety.org/rose-show-results.html.

Congratulations Glenn!

Glenn Hodges was named **Outstanding Consulting Rosarian of 2019** at the Central District conference. Thank you, Glenn, for your years of dedication and support to KCRS.

Also of note! Glenn's beautiful photo of French Lace was chosen to be in the **2020 American Rose Society Calendar**. Order your calendar today at: <http://www.rose.org/product-page/2020-roses-wall-calendar!>



Reading in the Roses

By Betsy Beasley

Our last Rose Garden Reading for the year in October featured four incredible local literary talents:



Pat Lawson



Melvina Young



Charlotte Seley



Jason Preu

We host the readings in partnership with The Writers Place. After the readings, guests mingle with the writers, ask questions, and enjoy camaraderie over refreshments.

Each spring, we begin the series with the Children's Poetry Contest. Alarie Tennille and other judges from The Writers Place select the winners in grades 3-4, 5-6 and 7-8. Each poem must include the word rose. Winners receive a \$50 cash prize and their poems are published on our website.

We look forward to next year's readings in the Rose Room at the Loose Park Garden Center. Please mark your calendar for 2-3:30 pm on Saturdays, May 16, June 13, and October 3.

Groomers Lunch

By John Riley



We had 41 groomers this season!

At our annual Groomer Appreciation Luncheon, three KCRS members earned their green aprons as a first time groomer with more than 15 hours. Congratulations to **Betty Whitcomb, Tom Moriarty and Tom Hogan**. And a BIG thank you to these groomers who also worked at least 15 hours and earned a pin for their apron: **Elaine Adams, Martha Comment, Maria Coughlin, Laura Dickinson, Charles Dorlac, Helga Friess, Mary Funk, Virginia Hill, Jill Holswade, Teri James, Jennifer Jensen, Lori Judd, Angela Lefman, Barbara McCanse, Carol Mosher, Martha Negley, Doug Polson, Cyndy Price, Gina Pulliam, Jillian Richwine, Vicki Riffle, Barbara Roche, Linda Rostenberg, Susan Sengstacken, Julie Spaeth, Judy Tinberg, and Melissa Windju.**

Special Thanks from John Riley

"For the past 7 years, the grooming season began with me asking the groomers why we deadhead the roses. The answer: to make the rose bush produce another flower instead of creating seeds in a hip. So when you visit the garden, the roses you see are the result of many snips of the pruner. How many snips in a typical season? We groom from May to September, which is about 5 bloom cycles. With 3,000 rose bushes and an average of 10 blooms per bush, that's about 150,000 snips!

It's been very rewarding and an honor to work with all the groomers and staff. But it's time for someone with new ideas and joyful enthusiasm to lead the group, so I'm stepping down as Garden Committee Chair. Thank you all for giving me the opportunity to serve you and the garden."



New groomers Tom Hogan and Betty Whitcomb with John Riley and Committee member Barbara Roche

Jazz in the Roses

By Betsy Parker



Jazz in the Roses, 2019, was held on Sunday, September 8, chaired by **Amy Hiles and Betsy Parker**. A relaxed crowd enjoyed jazz by **Hot Club KC** and heard a brief history of the Rose Garden and Kansas City jazz from the inimitable **Chuck Haddix**, who emceed the evening.

Picnics were arranged on blankets spread on the grass, and children and adults strolled through the Garden. The roses were beautiful and in full bloom, so it truly was Jazz in the Roses!



Cold Weather Rose Care

By Laura Dickinson, Consulting Rosarian



Early fall—encourage plants to enter winter dormancy

- Stop fertilize treatments by mid-August
- Stop deadheading first of September. Let the petals fall naturally, or pull them off, but leave the seed heads to develop. This signals the plant to stop making new flowers.
- Keep watering an inch a week if it doesn't rain
- Review your plants with a critical eye to decide if any should be replaced for next year. Dig those up and add them to the brown bags with your other compostable material

Late fall—After several hard frosts

- Cut back any long canes that could whip around in winter wind and harm themselves or their neighbors. Cut to about 3 feet. Don't do any other pruning until spring!
- Tie climbing rose canes securely to their trellis.
- Cover the crowns of any grafted or winter tender plants with a foot of mulch, soil, or compost covering the plant crown.
- Keep watering an inch a week until the ground freezes

Winter—Water is the most important

- Most rose loss/damage over winter is due to dehydration, not cold temperatures
- Water once a month, on a day above freezing, if we have not had an inch of rain or a foot of snow
- Replenish crown protection as needed
- Browse rose catalogs and website to make your list for next year! Order online for spring delivery

For more rose care information visit our [website](#).

Plant a Rose Bush

In the Laura Conyers Smith Rose Garden to celebrate a friend or honor the memory of a loved one. We'll do the planting and send them a lovely card and certificate.

\$30.00



ORDER ONLINE

www.kansascityrosesociety.org

CLICK ON:

Love is a Rose



2020 DUES ARE NOW DUE!

Our 2019 Members Directory is currently being prepared for publication.

To be listed, your 2019 dues must be paid to Mary Barickman:

Cell: 913-709-4707

Or <mailto:marybarickman@gmail.com>

Or on our [website](#).

Save These Spring 2020 Dates

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| March 21: | Spring rose demonstration in the Garden Center |
| April 7: | Spring Tea |
| May 14: | Groomer training in the Garden Center |
| May 16: | First Reading in the Roses with The Writers Place |
| June 7: | Rose Day and Rose Show |

Questions About Roses?
[Ask a Rosarian!](#)