



The Petal

A Monthly Publication by the Wichita Rose Society

Affiliated with the American Rose Society

November 2011

Growing Roses in Containers

By Andrea Grant, from www.therosemagazine.com

With the exception of large climbers, most roses can be grown successfully in containers. It is important that the container be large enough to provide ample space for the roots; also to have good drainage, good soil and a location with adequate light and air circulation. The container may be plastic or clay. Plastic fares better in cold climates where freezing may actually crack clay containers. Clay containers do provide



a cooler condition for the roots during hot weather. If choosing plastic, it is better to obtain the lighter terra-cotta color rather than the darker plastics, as they heat up faster. When met with these requirements one can grow miniatures right through roses that can attain a height and spread of up to five feet.

It is important that bush roses and small shrub roses be placed in containers no less than 15 inches in diameter. They will do well there for about two years and then will need transplanting.

Roses in containers tend to deplete the soil of its nutrients more rapidly than if they were in the ground. Often they will also outgrow their containers and need a larger home. In this case one can provide the rose with a container one or two sizes up from the previous one.

To prepare a container for the rose to be planted in, place a layer about one inch deep of gravel or other medium sized rocks in the bottom of the container. This serves as drainage and prevents the soil from becoming too compressed at the bottom. Next, to prepare the soil, combine one third good quality commercial potting soil, one third well- aged garden compost (if this is not available then substitute more of the potting soil) and one third well-composted mushroom or steer manure. You may wish to add an extra cup of perlite to the mix to enhance drainage. It is beneficial to the rose to add one cup of bonemeal to the soil. To increase the nutrient level, fishmeal and bloodmeal may be added. Roses are heavy feeders, as they need fertile conditions to produce many blooms

"...Most roses can be grown successfully in containers."

over the growing season.

Fill the container about two-thirds full

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Inside this Issue

- ◆ WRS Holiday Party
- ◆ Dues Are Due

Calendar of WRS Events

Monday, November 8

Columbus Day

Sunday, Nov 6

Daylight Savings Ends

Tuesday, November 8

6:30 PM

WRS Regular Meeting

Botanica

Thursday, November 17

Executive Board Meeting

Tuesday, Dec 6

The Petal Deadline

Tuesday, Dec 7

6: PM

WRS Holiday Party

Home of Charmaine Nichols

**ANY MEMBER CAN ATTEND
WRS BOARD MEETINGS!**

Contact Joel Weihe for location.

Meeting Brief

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

- *Presentation on "Winterizing Container Grown Roses", by ARS Consulting Rosarian Betsy Latta.*
- *Election of 2012 Officers*
- *Round Table Discussion: What worked in your garden in 2011.*

Refreshment Table



NOVEMBER

DRINKS— Marcee Suderman

FOOD— Charmaine Nichols, Norma Kemp, Rochelle Wilson & Don Williams

DÉCOR— Joel & Lisel Weihe

REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE: SUJA MATHEW—729.0740



From the President's Desk

Joel Weihe

Greetings friends,

The end of the year is upon us. The last blooms are likely happening now as next week the temperatures are expected to drop and Winter will finally make its appearance. We've started tucking our roses in for the long Winter night and just about all our Fall planting and transplanting is complete.

With the super heated Summer and few flowers we had it's sad to see the fall blooms ending. Hopefully this Summer was just a fluke and next won't be so bad.

In case you haven't heard the WRS Christmas party this year will once again be at the home of Charmaine Nichols, YAY!! For those new members that weren't around 2 years ago your in for a treat. Somewhere in this issue of the Petal there should be some instructions on what we're to bring in the way of food. Make sure you RSVP so Charmaine knows how many to prepare for.

I look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting where we will be nominating and voting in next years officers.

Until then,

Joel

WRS Holiday Party
Wednesday, December
6 Pm

The home of Charmaine Nichols

WRS will supply the name dish and beverages.

Please bring one of the following

Last name: A-M: Bring a dessert or roll.

Last name: N-Z: Bring a side dish or salad.

KANSAS FOOD DRIVE

Please bring 2 canned, or non-perishable food items to donation in the WRS contribution for

Kansas Food Drive!

Please note: Due to the holiday party there will be NO regular meeting in December!

Growing Roses in Containers

Cont. from page 1

with the soil mix. Place the rose, with its roots spread out comfortably, over the slightly mounded soil. Then fill in around the rose with the remaining earth. Press down gently and firmly around the protruding canes. The soil surface should be level with the bud union (where the rose is grafted onto the rootstock). If the rose seems too deep in the container or the soil level is well below the brim of the pot, repeat the planting procedure. The soil will compress somewhat with time and the entire contents will sink somewhat in the container. It is advisable to fill the container right to the top. Water so that the contents are well saturated. Containers dry out more quickly than soil in the ground; it is important to water container roses often, especially during long periods of drought and heat. A quick spot-check for dryness will determine whether a rose needs to be watered. Scratch about an inch down into the soil. If it is totally dry the rose is in need of fluid.

For health it is necessary to place the rose in a situation where it receives some moving air. Space containers about two feet apart. This will reduce the incidence of fungus-related rose diseases. A rose should also have a full day of sun, or at least seven hours.

Roses can spend their lifetime in this situation, excepting those places where the temperatures can drop dramatically over the winter months. It is advisable to move roses to a sheltered site or temporarily indoors. Finally, in spring offer roses in containers a tablespoon of Epsom Salts sprinkled around the base of the plant. This provides the necessary magnesium for healthy foliage. Also a kick-start of a fish emulsion feed in spring to get them off to a healthy start. ❖



Dues R Due

**\$15 per person or
\$20 for a couple.**

Please make checks payable to

Wichita Rose Society

Send to:

**Attention Membership
P.O. Box 3553
Wichita, KS 67201**

CR YEAR END REPORTS

CR Coordinator Cindy Vadakin urges the Consulting Rosarians to complete their Year End Reports and submit them by the end of the year.

Articles for the December issue of *The Petal* must be submitted by Dec 6 to be published.

Send to: Sally Duncan

P.O. Box 3553, Wichita, Kansas 67201

Or email ThePetal@wichitarosesociety.org

Wichita Rose Society

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