Pesticides: What Will Work

Organics and Chemicals Program Monday, Feb. 28, 2011, 7:30 p.m.

Which pesticides will work to keep Mid-Columbia roses healthy and beautiful? You are invited to come and hear Master Rosarian Norma Boswell answer this question on Monday, February 28, 2011 at 7:30 p.m.

At the meeting you will receive a handout picturing pests that frequent our rose gardens. Pests can be controlled by a choice of weapons, both chemical and organic. Questions are welcome, and you can expect experienced rosarians to share their wisdom.

Bring a guest and your dues for 2011. You can help our membership grow along with your roses.

CO-PRESIDENT JOANN SAYLER

Don and I hope the January meeting got you into the spring mood early. Thank you, Harlow and Jim, for running the meetings in our absence.

After a sunny and mostly warm January here in Arizona, we were suddenly hit with three below-freezing nights accompanied by wind. It’s quite unusual to have it that cold here. I’m afraid our rose garden has suffered, and as of this writing don’t know to what extent. We (the Garden Club) were expecting a second major blooming in March. However, with the Arctic blast we received, as well as the constant problem we fight—RABBITS—what are the chances?

Many roses just can’t get going, because the tender shoots are nibbled off and the canes

Sharing News and Views
MEETING TIME
Monday, January 24, 2011.
Our meeting begins at 7:30 p.m.

HOW TO GET THERE
Head for the intersection of Richland Bypass Highway with Van Giesen. Go west on Van Giesen to West Richland. Continue on Van Giesen past Road 38, Public Library and City Hall. On your left you will spot the sign for Sandberg Event Center & Gardens. The Center is set back slightly from Van Giesen, but the sign is easily observed as you drive 30 mph through town. Turn left and park at 331 S. 41st Ave., West Richland.

Co-President's Message
Continued from Page 1

stripped. The bushes that are well-established and healthy, the rabbits leave alone; but how much more beautiful this garden would be if 30 or 35 more could bloom. We have squirted stinky Liquid Fence by the gallon, but the enemy is multiplying faster than we can keep up.

The time has come in this war for real action—fencing. To do the entire garden is out of the question, so we will fence the newer, more vulnerable section. That leaves some 20 bushes that the rabbits find tasty, so we’ll see what we can do. Sure happy that we don’t have this problem at home!

Plans for the June 5 Rose Show are well on their way, and in very capable hands, I might add.

One last thought: Page 68 of the Jan/Feb American Rose magazine features a book review of Rosarian Ramblings—Howard Walters: Through the Years. It listed some of his “Thoughts For The Month,” which we found delightful, insightful and humorous. We must order this book.

Until next month, take care of yourself so we can take care of the roses!

MINUTES, JAN. 24, 2011
By Secretary Rebecca Schmidt

The January meeting was held January 24, 2011, at 7:30 p.m. at the Sandberg Event Center in West Richland, WA. Approximately 25 members gathered for the January meeting.

Harlow Young reminded us that membership dues are $17/year for individuals, or $22/year for families. Dues should be paid as soon as possible. Donations and gift memberships are accepted.

If you have topics for the “Rose Whisperer,” or questions, please share them so they may be placed in the monthly newsletter.

Bob Louie presented the Treasurer’s Report. The Society has an account balance of $5,955.00. An expense of $25 was incurred for sponsors. There are 26 registered members, 2/3 of which are family memberships. Also, 2/3 of these members are members of the American Rose Society.

Other business included a reminder to sign up to help at the TCRS booth at the TRAC Blue Mountain Garden Clubs Flower Show in February.

Harlow welcomed our guest speaker, Lynda Tripp from Beaver Bark. Lynda gave a presentation on dwarf conifers and how they complement landscapes. Hardy and easy to care for, dwarf conifers are making a comeback as a landscaping choice. She inspired many of us to consider including these wonderful plants in our yard and gardens.

Next TCRS meeting is scheduled for February 28, 2011, 7:30 p.m. at the Sandberg Event Center in West Richland.

Membership Renewal
Linda Kerkof, Membership Chair

Our membership renewals are well on the way for the 2011 Rose Season. We have 48 memberships paid so far out of about 70 at the end of last season. Way to go! Keep up the good work!

Memberships should be sent directly to Bob Louie, 20 N. Jefferson, Kennewick, WA 99336. Dues are $17 for single memberships and $22 for family memberships. Please use the membership form at the bottom of page 5.

Let’s try to get all the memberships in and paid for by our meeting in February. If anyone has any questions about your membership, please contact Linda Kerkof at 547-1860 or 851-2110

Q: Did you ever wonder why dimes, quarters and half dollars have notches, while pennies and nickels do not?
A: The US Mint began putting notches on the edges of coins containing gold and silver to discourage holders from shaving off small quantities of the precious metals. Dimes, quarters and half dollars are notched because they used to contain silver. Pennies and nickels aren’t notched because the metals they contain are not valuable enough to shave.
**Tri-City Rose Society**

Check page 8 for a summary of our next Tri-City Rose Society events.

Check page 1 for this month’s program and page 2 for directions to our meeting place.

We welcome suggestions for speakers and programs. Contact Jim Campbell, 967-2606, scotch1943@frontier.com or Harlow Young at 735-3481. Email threegkids@frontier.com.

TCRS meets 10 times a year on the 4th Monday of the month. We hold most of our meetings at the Sandberg Event Center & Gardens, 331 S. 41st Ave., West Richland. In summer we visit public and individual gardens.

We are a nonprofit, educational society affiliated with the American Rose Society. Visitors are always welcome!

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**Production Staff**

**NORMA BOSWELL**

Rose Herald Co-Editor and Publisher for 24 years, Norma is an ARS Master Rosarian, horticulture judge and arrangements judge.

**JO ANGELOS, CO-EDITOR**

Jo works hard to help her husband build a second home. She writes, volunteers freely, raises bees, and enlivens her world with a healthy touch of humor.

**DR. NANCY FOSTER-MILLS**

Nancy combines Jo’s and Norma’s pages, and keeps a valuable website for TCRS at www.owt.com/rosesociety.

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**Joann Crafts Pottery for Rose Sale**

Co-President Don Sayler writes, “Joann is doing Pottery for the rose sale. There aren’t lots of them but she will see if others in Pottery may donate.”

“The pottery shop is overflowing with winter visitors making pottery so she must assist them before she works on her stuff. She is a Monitor (teacher) in the shop.” TCRS members eagerly await our multi-talented Co-Vice President’s work.

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**Get the Upper Hand on Rose Pests**

*Norma Boswell, Master Rosarian*

In the Mid-Columbia Basin, the most widespread pest damage is due to a fungus. The pestiferous fungi that produce **powdery mildew** can destroy more rose leaves, canes and blossoms than will be consumed by our local insects, such as the creepy aphids you see on page 6.

Notice how the leaves themselves are starting to curl and become deformed in this University of California photo. The fungal spores of powdery mildew are able to “winter over” on living leaves, whether they are on the plant or on the ground, so you need to keep a clean garden. Lime Sulfur and Volck Oil can be used to kill off fungus spores and overwintering insect eggs. February is a good time to apply dormant spray, because local roses are just beginning to bud out.

If you skip the dormant spray, it is still possible to prevent a major mildew attack by using other sprays immediately after pruning each rose bed. Do this labor of love when the daytime temperature rises to 60 degrees and stays there. Concentrate on buds and bark. (I notice that very few leaves are green in my garden, so after pruning there won’t be many remaining spores on leaves.)

Organic gardeners can choose from Neem oil, GreenCure, Remedy (potassium bicarbonate) or even one tablespoon of baking soda and ½ tsp. liquid soap per gallon of water sprayed on the foliage.

Those with no aversion to chemicals can turn to Banner Maxx, Pentathlon, Immunox, Mancozeb, Compass, Heritage, Eagle, or any fungicide with chlorothalonil (Daconil) in it. Daconil bears a “danger” warning label because of potential eye damage, so exercise due caution.

The organic gardener as well as the chemical user can turn to **E-rase**, a jojoba seed oil product, to eradicate powdery mildew once it shows its ugly white face. It works by smothering the spores, so you must provide good coverage. If you can’t find what you want locally, try the large supply at www.rosemania.com.

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February in the Rose Garden

By Norma Boswell, Master Rosarian

On page 3 is a “teaser” for the pesticides program to be presented this month at the Sandberg Event Center in West Richland. I hope you will come and learn more.

Below is a photograph by Rich Baer looking down on the pith of a newly pruned rose cane. Coffee or tan colored pith indicates cane damage and is a signal to cut off and discard that portion. Keep cutting until you reach healthy pith that looks like the flesh of a freshly cut apple.

You may need to remove quite a bit of cane from the bush, due to winter damage from sudden cold weather last November before roses could harden off. Rosarians with a lot of bushes to prune tend to start early, because it takes time to prune the entire garden. If you have only a few bushes, you can enjoy the luxury of snipping slowly down each questionable cane, leaving as much length as you like. Keep in mind that you have to spray only what’s left of each bush after you finish pruning. At the same time, it’s a bit of insurance against spring cold snaps if we leave a few extra inches of height on the bushes.

Pages 3 and 6 give details on what to do as soon as you finish each rose bed. After that it’s weed-pulling time.

Any rainy, cold spring day is a good day for cleaning and sharpening tools, or for updating your tetanus shot.

Finally, let’s expand our view of rose information enough to see the national picture. What helps the American Rose Society in the long run helps the Tri-City Rose Society. Maybe you will be inspired to reach into your pocketbook and give a five dollar trial membership to a friend. Read on....

GIVE (OR TAKE) ARS TRIAL MEMBERSHIP ($86 VALUE FOR $5)

• Receive free advice from Consulting Rosarians through the ARS Consulting Rosarians (CR) program.
• Get free or reduced admission and discounts at gardens, conservatories, and arboreta nationwide.
• Take free online access to four quarterly bulletins, a $45 value: Mini/Miniflora Bulletin, Old Garden Rose & Shrub Gazette, Rose Arrangers’ Bulletin, Exhibitors’ Quarterly.
• Try out two issues of American Rose magazine, $16 value. Enjoy 84 pages of outstanding articles and color photography for beginners and experienced rose growers.

Please begin a trial membership immediately for the person below:

__________________________________________________________________________
First Name, Last Name

__________________________________________________________________________
Street Address

__________________________________________________________________________
City, State and Zip Code

__________________________________________________________________________
Phone Number

__________________________________________________________________________
E-mail

Check, Master Card, Visa, Discover, or American Express

__________________________________________________________________________
Card # and Verification Code

Add Signature & Expiration Date. Mention Tri-City Rose Society.

Mail the information shown above to: American Rose Society; P.O. Box 30,000; Shreveport, LA 71130. If you have questions, contact Laura Pfender, 1-800-637-6534, or e-mail laura@ars-hq.org
2011 Monthly Programs of Tri-City Rose Society

January 24  Lynda Tripp of Beaver Bark, “Not your Neighbor’s Overgrown Juniper.” A presentation of the use of dwarf conifers in landscaping and in rose gardens.


March 28  Ellen Rector, Flower & Garden Horticulturist, will provide a program, “Xeriscaping in the Tri-Cities,” which will help in the selection of plants suitable for our arid region.

April 25  Harlow Young, Consulting Rosarian, will present “A Vacation In Great Britain.” Harlow will show slides of his 3 week trip which will include photos of gardens, flowers and landscape throughout Great Britain. Tom Morris has also agreed to review the soil testing promotion that was completed last spring.

May 23  Helen Newman, TCRS will demonstrate, “How to Prepare for the Rose Show.” We will learn from an expert how to win Queen of Show.

June 27  “A Visit to the Garden of Don and Linda Mercer,” located in the Horse Heaven Hills. Their collection of unique roses (mostly bush roses of the Old Garden type) is bound to please.

July 25  “Composting At Home: Michael’s Successes,” a visit to the garden of Michael and Rebecca Schmidt, includes tips from the host.

August 22  “A visit to the garden of Harlow and Linda Young.” See firsthand the handiwork of a really good rose gardener.

September 26  “The Fall Rose Show,” our in-house show, will be chaired by Linda Kerkof, ARS Arrangement Judge.

October 24  Scott Woodward, local naturalist and president of the Greenway Project in Richland, will be the guest speaker at our annual dinner meeting. His presentation will include the work his organization is doing to preserve the native flora and fauna of the lower Yakima River.

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Do you need to renew your membership – or do you know someone who would like to join us? Please use this form and mail it to: Bob Louie, 20 Jefferson St, Kennewick, WA 99336.

Name/Names________________________________________________________________________

Address____________________________________________________________________________

Email_________________________________________________

Phone___________________________________

Are you a current member of the American Rose Society?
Yes ____No_____

Membership dues for our Tri-City Rose Society are $17 for a single membership or $22 for a family membership.
Dear Organic Gardener:

I appreciate your desire to control aphids in your rose garden without using any commercial pesticides that might harm beneficial insects.

The simple answer to your first question is “Yes.” It is possible to control aphids by washing them off of your rose bushes as long as you keep in mind the following important facts:

- Adult winged aphids may take flight to a dry place while you are hosing your plants off. They may wait until the deluge is finished, and come back.

- Nearly all of all those that you wash off will not be able to reinfest your plants. Their mouth parts are not damaged by this wash-off, but the sudden stop at the ground may.

- Aphid eggs that might be on the back sides of the leaves are not going to be washed away. They’ll hatch in a few days and “go to lunch” on your bushes again. So, you’ll need to be ready to flood them again.

You’ll be at this most of the cool spring weather and probably again in the fall. The summer heat in our area warms beyond the temperature that aphids enjoy.

I presume that you don’t want to use insecticidal soaps that might harm the beneficial insects. If that’s true, you’re left with water. This is OK, because your roses will benefit from the water washings.

There are a few other non-toxic methods to help control aphids. Lady beetles, lacewings, some parasitic wasps, damsel bugs and praying mantis all enjoy munching on aphids, at least the ones that can’t fly. So, if you see them around, don’t discourage them.

I have also read that hummingbirds and some small wrens have been known to feed on aphids. So encourage them to nest in your garden.

While researching this, I discovered that there are some “aphid traps” available which contain a non-toxic yellow-colored sticky surface that “traps” the aphid who lands on it. Here’s the internet address for this product: [http://www.bugspray.com/catalog/products/page1232.html](http://www.bugspray.com/catalog/products/page1232.html).

You’ll enjoy being out among your roses as you “hunt” aphids, and the roses will love the companionship. Keep at it.

~ The Rose Whisperer (aka Harlow Young)

If anyone has questions that need answered, be sure to contact “The Whisperer” and the complete answer will be published in a future edition of the Rose Herald. With the growing season just around the corner, there are always things we can learn to improve our rose gardens and make them more enjoyable. His email is threegkids@frontier.com.
Tending Our Own Garden

"One of the most tragic things I know about human nature is that all of us tend to put off living. We are all dreaming of some magical rose garden over the horizon - instead of enjoying the roses blooming outside our windows today."

Dale Carnegie

Although we don’t have roses blooming outside our windows these first few days of February, this quote extends an opportunity for us to look at that world right outside our window and decide how we are going to let it affect our way of living.

This is a picture from the small creek beside the walking path by our home. This was taken on a chilly day in January when the frost stayed on the blackberry bushes in the background all day. It is a peaceful, picturesque view of a seemingly calm world. Right on the other side of my camera lens, I can “become one with nature,” as the old saying goes. The gentle flow of the river, the small birds foraging for small morsels of food, and the grass and trees storing up an energy that will burst forth in a cry of Spring in just a few weeks. I am consumed by the peaceful tranquility of this place. It is here and now, and it is right outside my window.

Our quote plays down the act of “dreaming” of what could be over the horizon. It encourages us to be content with what lies within our field of vision, because those are the things that can be most affected by our actions and lie within our control. We can dream and envision things for future hopes and goals but not at the expense of losing focus on what we already have in front of us. In our picture the horizon begs us to follow the rays of the sun and leave this peaceful place; but for today, with the sun quickly going down, that horizon will be cold and dark in a very short time. For the moment, we must relax and be satisfied with our view.

It will be my goal this year to focus out my window, not to seem uncaring or selfish but to really get a grip on where I can make a difference. Out our window, some things are beyond our control to change, the path of that small stream is consistent, there is no stopping the water flow, there is no reason to change its path, its purpose is to come and go. I must recognize some parts have their purpose and I must live in harmony with it.

I hope this article has allowed you to sit in a moment of peace within yourself. All of us have enjoyed listening to a gentle flow of water and looked to nature to supply a bit of joy to our lives. This time refreshes us and creates a determination to live...to really live, to enjoy that view from our window, to grasp hold of what we love and to make that view better for others, as we provide the upkeep and necessary changes.

We can only hope to accomplish greater things beyond our window view and into our horizon when we are strong and steady and have the things near to us under control. We realize our limits, enjoy what we have and maybe just once, rest in total satisfaction. Sometime there may be a reason for my focus to broaden as the need to look out a different window arises. As I turn to walk away from this small window pictured above – I must show you the view out the other window. To the right, in a 180 degree turn from where I was standing lies the road to the horizon beyond my window.

Thank you for letting me share my photos and thoughts...

Jo Angelos
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**Mark Your Calendar**

**Feb. 25-27, 2011**

Blue Mountain Flower Show at the Home and Garden Show at TRAC in Pasco. TCRS will set up and staff an educational table promoting our society. Also, our Master Rosarians and CRs are giving rose care talks to the public each day.

**Feb. 28, 2011**

Master Rosarian Norma Boswell will speak on the topic of pesticides, both organic and chemical.

If you haven’t already mailed an envelope with your 2011 dues to Treasurer Bob Louie, please bring along the filled-in membership form on page 5 and give it to Membership Chair Linda Kerkof, along with a $17 check for single dues or a $22 check for family dues.

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