

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

January, and It's Still Cold

January 02 - New year and nothing really to do but prune a few roses every day before my knee surgery at the end of the month. I will prune more than I usually do and hope the rest of winter is kind of normal. I am adding a bit more composted soil/mulch over all the roses. Can't be too careful this year.

January 15 - Hard to believe but several roses have some pretty good-looking foliage. Too bad because I am pruning below the foliage to only 3-4 inches above where my final cuts will be in early-mid March.

January 17 - Last year my **Maggie Barry** rose had a ton of galls on a majority of canes. I cut out all of the galls which still left a rose with a lot of canes to grow this year. The galls were really sneaky and some hid away from my gaze. I will be watching this rose this year. But now I see a large gall on another rose, **Gift of Life**. I pruned it out and will be watching this rose as well. Remember that after pruning a rose with crown gall, disinfect your pruners after you are done. I use a spray bottle of Lysol on my pruners.

January 21 - It is snowing ! Fortunately I am done with my "Pre-Prune".

January 24 - Arthroscopic knee surgery day. I will be taking it easy for the next week or so.