

The Rosché Garden

A Touch of Glass

Jan and Knute Rosché —
Overland Park

About the gardeners

The Roschés built their home in 1990. Their property was a blank slate with a few foundation plants. Moving from California, they found they had a lot to learn about gardening in the Midwest!

Jan shares that she collects art glass. “Knute refers to our garden as ‘Chihuly lite.’” she says. They have collected pieces from St. Louis, Canada, Seattle and Alaska.

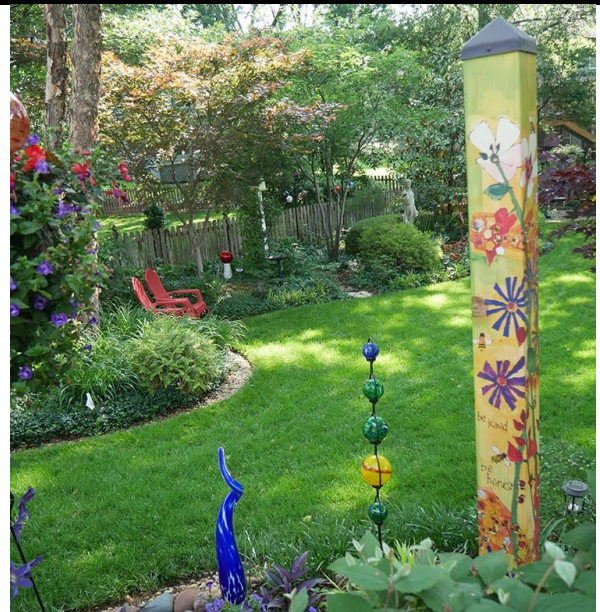
When traveling, the couple always seek out any local botanical gardens, and find they are great for getting new ideas. Working in the Monet garden at the Overland Park Arboretum is another way that they enjoy learning about new plants and techniques, and getting to know fellow gardeners.

The Roschés’ garden has become shady as the trees have matured. “If we could do things differently, we would stay away from trees that litter seeds, get broken branches from wind and storms, have acorns, and those that are disease-prone. We have all of those,” says Jan.

“We plant for four-season interest. It is very gratifying to look outside at any time of year and be delighted with the view. It is our sanctuary.”

Knute and Jan’s tips

- ✓ Include blooming and evergreen shrubs and trees for seasonal interest. Vary textures, color and shapes of plant material.
- ✓ When planting borders, layer short plants in front, then medium growers and tall plants in the back
- ✓ Use vertical structures such as pergolas, obelisks or trellises to grow vines or climbing roses.
- ✓ Research plants before you buy. Pay attention to mature sizes and sun/shade requirements.
- ✓ Don’t forget to water trees and shrubs on warmer days in the winter, particularly those that are newly-planted.



Special things to notice about this garden

- The **art glass collection** throughout the garden. They started with one piece from a Leawood Art Fair, adding many pieces over the years. Some are from places they have traveled, other are a ‘find’ from here and there and even online!
- Notice the lovely **paver patio** covered with a **pergola**, which is a welcome place to relax and enjoy the garden.
- See the **fountain, statuary, bird houses, trellises** placed throughout the landscape. In the spring, there are hundreds of blooming tulips, daffodils, allium, flowering shrubs and trees.

Knute and Jan’s favorite plants

- **Sapphire Indigo clematis.** The Roschés have clematis planted on several trellises. They love the color the blooms provide.
- **Caladiums.** Add color and texture to the garden and they thrive in the shade.
- **Tulips.** They are particularly special because they come in many types and colors.
- **Pansies and violas.** So useful as they are planted in the fall over newly-planted tulip bulbs. They over-winter and are huge by spring.
- **Alliums.** Jan finds these to be a very special addition to the garden because they look like fireworks.