

*Petals
To Pages*



Wilmington Rose Society Newsletter
September 2023





WCFRS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to September! I know it has been a challenge to keep your roses looking good during our hot August but cooler weather will soon be here and you will be rewarded with beautiful October blooms! Please remember to be faithful to your watering, fertilizing and spraying.

We had a wonderful meeting in August and had many new members and many regular members that attended. We had near record attendance and everyone really enjoyed Bob Knerr's information on how to prepare your roses for the exhibition we have coming up in October. Thank you to Bob for his great talk and for all he does for WCFRS! Bob is a wealth of knowledge and is so generous to share this with us!

Please join us for our next meeting on September 9, 2023 at the Arboretum at our regular time. We hope to have Don Myers, a noted rose expert come and talk about roses. If he is not able to make it we have a member that will speak about roses and we will have a question and answer session and try to answer all of your questions about roses and their care. Regardless of the topic each month you will always learn something and enjoy being with other rose gardeners!

Our WCFRS Annual Exhibition will be on October 7, 2023. You will find in this newsletter Bob's information sheet on "Rose Show Prep" and another sheet that lists "Rose Show Classes" you can exhibit in.

There are 13 classes for rose blossoms. Please remember that every blossom you exhibit should have 3" x 5" index card with the name and type of rose on the front of the card and your name on the back of the card.

There are also 3 classes for photos. Please remember your photos should be 4"x 6" and have your name on the back of the photo.

If you have any questions please bring them to the September meeting or feel free to e-mail me or call me any time.

Thank you in advance to Bob Knerr who will be our rose judge. Bob is also donating 16 prizes to give the winner of each class.

Please be gathering up items for our WCFRS Annual Auction on November 4, 2023. Please note this is a change of date. Please donate your items and plan to attend and bid. The items can be anything to do with gardening roses. This event is a good source of fundraising for WCFRS and always a lot of fun!

Our WCFRS Christmas brunch will be December 9, 2023. We will have a covered dish and a gift exchange and celebrate the great work of WCFRS.

Jim Young will come with his products including Purely Organic on January 13, 2024. Please be thinking about what you may want to order.

We have secured a location for WCFRS to start meeting in August 2024 due to the renovation at the Arboretum. We will continue to meet at the Arboretum through June 2024. Starting in August 2024 we will meet at Sea Gate Baptist Church Fellowship Hall at 6115 Oleander Drive which is very close to the Arboretum. We are thankful to have this location secured.

We have been able to plan all of the dates for WCFRS for 2024. These are all now posted on the WCFRS website if you would like to look ahead and plan.

We are working to get our 2024 WCFRS calendar completed. Please send your pictures (up to 4 photo submissions per member) to Mary Barwick at marybilly@bellsouth.net by October 14, 2023. You may call her at (910)620-2530 if you have any questions. Thank you to Mary and Debbie for their work on this project.

Please remember it is not too early to be thinking about the rose tour for 2024. If you would like to be on the tour or would like to serve on the Rose Tour Committee, please let Mary know.

Thank you to the WCFRS Board members (Mary Barwick, Debbie Caulder, Carol Rodriguez, Vonnie Fry, Justine Pflaum) for their continued hard work. Thank to you Norma McGee for the great job she does on the WCFRS newsletter.

Please let me or any board members know if you would like to serve on the Board of WCFRS or would like to be on any committees to help with the running of WCFRS. We will have elections at our December brunch. It takes help from many folks to keep our WCFRS running smoothly.

I look forward to seeing you in September. We will have a door prize at the meeting so please attend so you will have a chance to win! Please let me know if you have any questions, feedback or suggestions.

Don't forget to smell the roses!

Denise H. Miller

(910) 540-6857

denise_28411@yahoo.com



Upcoming Meeting Dates

September 9, 2023 - Don Myers, Speaker

9:30 AM - 10:00 AM Social Time

10:00 Business Meeting/Speaker

October 7, 2023 - Annual Rose Exhibit

November 4, 2023 - Annual Auction

December 9, 2023 - Christmas Brunch

September in the Garden

By: Bob Knerr

Keep to your routine!! Remember your calendar and record what you do and when you do it. Good rose growing requires only a few jobs but they must be done consistently and on time.

Feed monthly and water weekly if there has not been 2" of rain from the sky.

Plants will need 5-gallons of water weekly if no rain. This should be divided into two waterings per week. This is by far the most important need for your roses. DO NOT NEGLECT THIS JOB!!

- 1. Spray for fungus (blackspot) every 7-10 days even if the thermometer is supposed to reach 90 degrees. Use a contact fungicide like Mancozeb and a systemic fungicide like honor guard.**
- 2. Keep weeds out of the rose beds. They harbor insects and use up nutrients the roses need.**
- 3. Keep the roses pruned to a reasonable height as you cut old blooms. You can cut down farther than the first 5 leaf bud union to keep them in check.**
- 4. If you have questions about your roses or are having difficulty with some disease or insect damage, bring a specimen to the rose meeting and maybe someone can identify the trouble and suggest a remedy for the problem.**
- 5. Mites could be a problem in the dry hot weather. They are tiny insects seen on the undersides of the leaves. If you are old like me you may need a magnifying glass to see them. They suck the nutrients out of the leaves and leave the leaves looking anemic and light pale green. They can be controlled by washing the undersides of the leaves with a water wand two to three times a week. If that does not do it, you can spray with Avid miticide weekly. Forbid will also work.**

Cut and enjoy your roses and share them with neighbors.

Good gardening!!!

“Bob”



From the Editor's Garden

As tropical storm Idalia was approaching this week we had a lot on our plate. I had to make a quick trip to Florida to check on my mother and our son was in the hospital recovering from a complicated surgery. I returned just ahead of the storm. Hubby was staying with our son a lot while our daughter-in-law tried to be at work. The afternoon before the storm arrived I was able to come home from the hospital and do a quick dead-heading of Hubby's roses. That's typically his job but he wasn't available and, because I "tag along" to the Rose Society meetings, I knew at least enough to be able to get the roses prepared for the storm.

I sent this picture to Hubby to surprise him that I had removed the wilting blooms so they wouldn't fall on the ground and then he would be out there picking them up. (Wasn't that sweet of me?!!)

I hope your plants faired well and that you will have new blooms in abundance.

See you soon

Norma

Wilmington Cape Fear Rose Society

Membership

Our membership application is on the web site. (wcfrs.org)

Send check to: Debbie Caulder, Treasurer, 6206 Mallard Drive, Wi, NC 28403

Board Members 2023

President, Denise Miller, 1148 Edgewater Club Dr., Wilmington, 28411 910-540 - 6857

Vice President, Mary Barwick, 5451 Eastwind Road, Wilmington, NC 28409

Treasurer, Debbie Caulder, Treasurer, 6206 Mallard Drive, Wilmington, NC 28403

Secretary, Carol Rodriguez, 601 Hollingsworth Drive, Wilmington, NC 28412

Vonnie Fry, 1604 Bexley Drive, Wilmington, NC 28412

Justine Pflaum 1272 Lillibridge Dr. Leland, NC 28451

Rose Nurseries for New Roses

1. Edmunds Roses, Wisconsin, www.edmundsroses.com 888-481-7673
2. Heirloom Roses, Oregon, www.heirloomroses.com 503-538-1576
3. John's Miniature Roses, Oregon, www.johnsminiatureroses.com 503-538-1576
4. K&M Nursery, Mississippi, www.kandmroses.com 601-648-2908
5. Palatine Roses, Ontario, Canada, www.palatineroses.com 905-468-8627 (bare root)
6. Roses Unlimited, South Carolina, rosesunlimitedsc.com 864 682 7673
7. Wisconsin Roses, Wisconsin, www.wiroses.com 262-358-1298 MAIDENS
8. Witherspoon Rose Culture, North Carolina, www.witherspoonrose.com 919-489-4446
(bare root and potted)

****Note: You can access the rose vendors listed above by clicking on the website given.***

Rose Show Prep

Assumption is that you have been doing all the necessary tasks throughout the year so far. Feeding, watering, and spraying. Each on a regular basis.

We start with the fact that roses tend to recycle their blooms every 42 days. Some will be 38 days and some will be 45 days depending on the variety. Know your rose. Sprays will take 4-5 days longer than individual blooms

Next is the fact that this schedule will be influenced by the weather of which you have no control. A hot September will shorten the time and a cool wet cloudy September will lengthen it.

Our date for the exhibition this year is October ⁷~~X~~. So with the hope of having a good bloom for the exhibit, count back 42 days (6 weeks) and make a cut on a good cane at least pencil size just above a 5 leaf. Do not cut back more than 25% of the bush. This cutback is NOT like the one you did in February.

If you have a bush with 4 good canes, to enhance the chance of having a good bloom, cut one cane back at 38 days, one at 40 days, one at 42 days and one at 44 days. This will help to counteract the influence of the weather.

As the new cane develops, if you are hoping for a large hybrid type bloom, disbud all side buds that arise and leave only one good central bloom. If you are looking for a spray to develop disbud the central bloom and let all the side blooms develop.

Immediately after cutback give the bush a dose of a fast acting fertilizer (liquid or 10-10-10) just like you did in the spring. This tells it to start growing again.

Two week later (one month before exhibit) give a dose of liquid fertilizer (peters, miracle gro, mills easy feed). Two week later (2 weeks before exhibit) give another dose of liquid. One week before the exhibit you may want to give the bush a dose of 0-10-10. That adds potassium and phosphorus for enhanced color.

If your great bloom looks like it will open two days before the time, cut it and refrigerate it at about 34-35 degrees in the fridg.

Cut the stem at least 18" long and do NOT remove the leaves. They are an important part of the rose

Prep at the exhibition

Prep tools: vase, tweezers, brushes, scissors, deckle scissors, wedging material (styrofoam, saran wrap, aluminum foil) pen cotton balls or cue tips, tissues, exacto blade, pruner, 3x5 note cards.

Get to the Arboretum EARLY. If you arrive with 3-4 roses 10 minutes before entries close you will not be able to get them in and no one will be able to help you!!!!

We will try to show how to prep a bloom at the meeting.