

*Petals  
To Pages*



**Wilmington Rose Society  
Newsletter**

**April 2025**





**WCFRS  
PRESIDENT'S  
MESSAGE**

Welcome to April! I hope you are all enjoying our warmer weather. I know your roses are doing well and growing. I hope you planted at least one new rose and know you will enjoy seeing it bloom this year! Don't forget to do your fertilizing, spraying and watering so you will have beautiful roses!

Please remember the dates for the remaining WCFRS meetings for 2025 are:

4/12/25, 5/3/25, 6/14/25, no meeting in July, 8/9/25, 9/13/25, 10/11/25, 11/8/25, 12/13/25.

The dates are the 2nd Saturday of each month except for the Rose Garden Tour in May which is the first Saturday and no meeting in July per our regular schedule. The 2025 schedule with all topics/ speakers is posted on the WCFRS website. Please continue to refer others to our WCFRS website for information about our rose society and growing roses.

We had a wonderful meeting on March 8th which was a panel discussion to discuss all your questions/ issues regarding roses. Thank you to Bob Knerr and Debbie Caulder, two of our Consulting Rosarians for helping with this. It was very informative and I received great feedback from members that enjoyed being able to ask questions and gain valuable information.

On April 12, 2025 we will have a guest speaker, David Johnson, Owner CEO of Johnson Nursery who will do a presentation at our meeting entitled "New Horticultural Ideas for Southeastern NC." This will be informative and another good time to invite others to come with you to WCFRS! David is looking forward to speaking. Please take time to thank him for his generous donation to WCFRS. Johnson Nursery will be having multiple talks and events throughout the year which you can see on their website. There is an educational seminar on April 19, 2025 entitled "Pollinators, Pests, and Plants" you may be interested in attending.

May 3rd will be our 2025 WCFRS Rose Garden Tour. Thank you so much to Debbie and Mike Caulder, Mary and Billy Barwick, Samantha Nguyen, Carol and Paul Rodriguez, Justine and Tim Pflaum, Charles and Deborah Cooke, David Lawrynnowicz and Barbara Hajek who have volunteered to have their gardens on the tour.

A special thank you to Deborah Cooke who secured many donations for WCFRS. Please make a note of the businesses that support WCFRS and please support them! Please remember we do not charge for our tour and the tour is a great way to educate others about roses. Thank you to Mary



Barwick who is the Rose Tour Chair and the members of the Rose Tour Committee (Arlene Barker, Carol Rodriguez) for their good work on the planning of our Rose Tour. We will have large and small flyers at the April meeting for you to give to others or post at places to help advertise the rose tour. The information about the rose tour is also on the WCFRS website.

On June 14, 2025 we will have our annual WCFRS "picnic." Please note the time change. We will meet at 10:15 (instead of 9:30) for our social time, have our business meeting at 10:45 and eat at 11:00. We will be ordering barbeque and chicken and wonderful sides and dessert so you do not want to miss this. We have this catered through Casey's and it is always delicious! There will be a sign up sheet to attend the picnic at the April meeting; please see Debbie Caulder to sign up. If you do not sign up at the April meeting you will need to call Debbie Caulder at (910)233-1709 or email her at [dcaulder53@gmail.com](mailto:dcaulder53@gmail.com) by 6/1/25 so will be able to order the food for the picnic. You and your immediate family are invited to attend the picnic at no charge but remember the picnic is for members, not visitors.

In July 2025 we will have our month off will no meeting or newsletter.

Thank you to our WCFRS Board members (Mary Barwick, Debbie Caulder, Carol Rodriguez, Justine Pflaum, Samantha Nguyen, Jeanette Bullard) for their continued hard work. Thank you to Norma McGee for her always great job on the newsletter!

We are planning for our 2026 WCFRS meetings. Please let me know if you have any ideas for speakers or topics for our meetings. We are continuing to look at ways to market WCFRS so others know about us and can learn more about how to grow roses in our area; please let me know if you have any ideas.

I shared with members at our February meeting the ARS Carolina District top 10 roses and there was a request for me to include this list in the newsletter. I wanted to include the list one more time in case you were still looking for new/ replacement roses. I was able to find and plant a Dee-Lish and look forward to seeing how it does!

1. Veterans' Honor - HT
2. Pope John Paul II - HT
3. Iceberg - F
4. Gemini - HT
5. Autumn Splendor - MinFI
6. Dee-Lish - HT
7. Joy - Min
8. Ring of Fire - HT
9. Strawberry Kisses - MinFI
10. Altissimo - LCI

Other information for members:

1. WCFRS renewed our general liability insurance for 2025.
2. WCFRS re-joined Garden Club of North Carolina as an affiliate member for 2025.
3. WCFRS has hired a person who is an audiovisual specialist to assist with this when we have a speaker.
4. WCFRS will discuss a semi-annual donation to SeaGate Baptist Church at the June meeting for the church generously allowing WCFRS to meet in their space at no charge to WCFRS.
5. WCFRS will discuss the WCFRS annual scholarship to Cafe Fear Community College Horticultural Science Program at the June meeting.

I was asked by a WCFRS member that we donate to those in Western North Carolina. SeaGate Baptist Church continues to be active in this relief effort. If you wish to donate to this cause please contact Reverend Steve Smith at SeaGate Baptist Church about the best way to do this.

Please remember to greet all new members and visitors at our meetings. Please come and socialize at our meetings to get to know other rose gardeners. Our WCFRS continues to grow at a time when other clubs are getting smaller. I appreciate you attending our meetings and continuing to be a member of WCFRS!

I look forward to seeing you at **SeaGate Baptist Church Fellowship Hall at 6115 Oleander Drive** on April 12, 2025. Please let me know if you have any questions, feedback or suggestions. Thank you for being a part of WCFRS!

Don't forget to smell the roses!

Denise H. Miller  
(910) 540-6857  
[denise\\_28411@yahoo.com](mailto:denise_28411@yahoo.com)



## Upcoming Meeting Dates

April 12, 2025

9:30 AM - 10:00 AM Social Time

10:00 Business Meeting

Speaker - David Johnson

May 3, 2025 - Rose Tour

June 14, 2025

July 2025 - No Meeting

August 9, 2025

September 13, 2025



## April 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.*

- 1. Water weekly if there has not been 2" of rain from the sky. Plants will need 5-6 gallons of water weekly if no rain.*
- 2. Spray for fungus (blackspot) every 7-10 days even if the thermometer is supposed to reach 90 degrees.*
- 3. Mulch the roses in March-April time frame with 1" - 2" to keep the weeds down and the roots cooler.*
- 4. Keep weeds out of the rose beds. They harbor insects and use up nutrients the roses need.*
- 5. 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.*
- 6. This is the time you can plant potted roses. If some of your roses did not do well last year it might be better to dig them out and replant with potted roses rather than try to nurse along a poorly performing bush. Potted roses can be obtained from either your local nursery or a mail order nursery that sends them to you already potted.*

*Happy Rose Growing!!!*

*Bob Knerr*



*From the Editor's  
Garden*

This is the season that I look forward to every year. I love the springtime with the mild temps and all the blooms bursting out. While we're waiting on the roses to bloom we can enjoy the cherry blossoms, the dogwoods, the forsythias and even the pear trees!! It's such a beautiful time of year.

Hubby has been working hard to get everything back in shape. He did some rearranging in the flower beds to move some roses and plant some new ones. One of the new plants is the rose we won in the WCFRRS auction. The rose that Hubby brought home from Bob's garden had enough canes to divide the plant into two rose bushes. Fingers crossed and prayers for them to thrive!!

Now we need some April showers. Come on rain!

See ya'll soon.

*Norma*

## Wilmington Cape Fear Rose Society

### Membership

Our membership application is on the web site. ([wcfrs.org](http://wcfrs.org))

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

Or pay online.

### Board Members 2025

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, 6206 Mallard Drive, Wilmington, NC 28403

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

Jeanette Bullard , 100 Yaupon Court, Hampstead, NC 28433

Justine Pflaum 1272 Lillibridge Dr. Leland, NC 28451

Samantha Nguyen 4280 Appleton Way, Wilmington, NC 28412

### Rose Nurseries for New Roses

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