

# *Petals To Pages*



## Wilmington Rose Society Newsletter

May 2025

*Wilmington Cape Fear  
Rose Society*

*Invites you to our 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual*

*Rose Garden Tour*

**Saturday May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025**

9 am to 5 pm

*Free & open to the public*

*Come tour our rose gardens & speak  
with garden owners about growing roses in the south.*



[www.wcfrs.org](http://www.wcfrs.org)



Map QR



## **WCFRS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Welcome to May! I know your first big bloom of the season has been wonderful and you have really been enjoying smelling the roses! Please remember to stick to your fertilizing, spraying and watering schedule. Don't forget to write everything down on your rose gardening calendar. You will be surprised how fast time goes and this is your best way to keep up with your schedule.

Please remember the dates for the remaining WCFRS meetings for 2025 are:  
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 April 12, 2025 with our guest speaker, David Johnson, Owner and CEO of Johnson Nursery who did a presentation at our meeting entitled "New Horticultural Ideas for Southeastern NC". This talk was very informative! We learned about many plants and we certainly appreciate David and his daughter Annie coming to WCFRS and presenting. If you go to the nursery, please take time to thank David 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.

May 3rd will be our 2025 WCFRS Rose Garden Tour. This is your chance to tour some of the prettiest rose gardens in this area. It is also your chance to talk to fellow members that are on the tour about their techniques for growing beautiful roses and to actually see different varieties of roses and how they grow in our area.

Thank you so much to David Lawrence and Barbara Hajek, Debbie and Mike Caulder, Mary and Billy Barwick, Samantha Nguyen, Carol and Paul Rodriguez, Justine and Tim Pflaum, Charles and Deborah Cooke who have volunteered to have their gardens on the tour.

Thank you to all of you that took time to secure donations for WCFRS and the Rose Garden 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 RoseTour.

Thank you to Debbie Caulder who refurbished the signs we use to designate each garden.

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!

If you did 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 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.

We are selling raffle tickets to win a nice basket of goodies donated by Mission Barbeque (\$50.00 value) and will draw for the prize at the picnic.

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

On August 12, 2025 we will have a talk about caring for your roses and how to prep for the October exhibition.

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.

Other information for members:

1. WCFRS has hired a person who is an audiovisual specialist to assist with this when we have a speaker. He video taped our April speaker. Please let me know if you would like to receive a link to this and I will send it to you.
2. 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.
3. WCFRS will discuss the WCFRS annual scholarship to Cafe Fear Community College Horticultural Science Program at the June meeting.
4. WCFRS received a very nice thank you note from the Ability Garden thanking WCFRS for our donation to them.

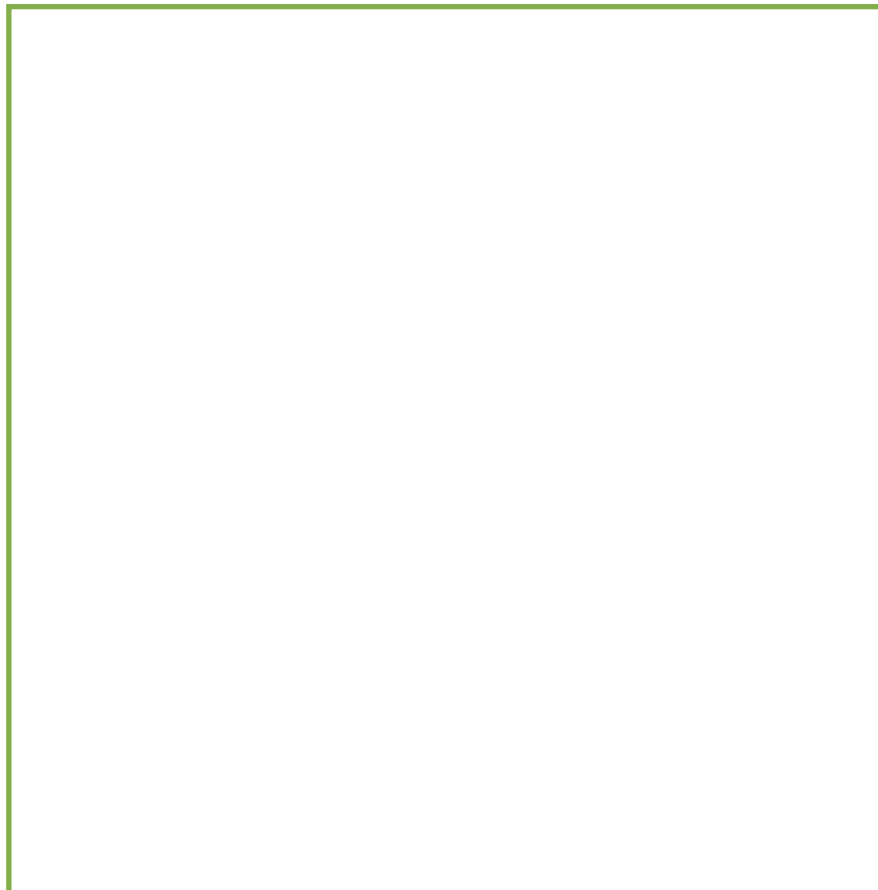
Please remember to greet all new members and visitors at our meetings. Please come and socialize at our meetings to get to know other rose gardeners.

I appreciate you attending our meetings and continuing to be a member of WCFRS!

I hope to see many of you in the gardens for our rose tour. I look forward to seeing you at SeaGate Baptist Church Fellowship Hall at 6115 Oleander Drive on June 14 for our picnic. 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



## May in the Garden

**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 – You should have fed at least three times by now unless you use a slow release fertilizer. Even then you should have fed twice.**

- 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. This job should be done by now.**
- 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.**

**Cut and enjoy your roses and share them with neighbors.**

**Good gardening!**

*Bob Kuerr*





## *From the Editor's Garden*

Spring has arrived and I love it!!! The pollen has settled down and our roses are blooming abundantly. So far this is the best crop that Hubby's garden has produced. It's a good thing because he was pretty discouraged last season.

I snapped this photo of Hubby watering the roses while he enjoyed viewing the fruits of his labors. My part in this process is to smell the roses and ooh and ahh!!

I advised Hubby this morning while we were sipping our coffee that he needs to plan his schedule so that he gets out in the garden earlier and can be finished with his tending duties before the noon heat hits. It's now 2:30 this afternoon and he just came inside. I'll nudge him again and hopefully he will do better before the summer heat kicks in. I just want him to not have a heat stroke! Ya'll be careful out there while you're tending your beauties.

See you 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.***