

*Petals
To Pages*



**Wilmington Rose Society
Newsletter**

October 2025





WCFRS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to October! I hope you are beginning to have some wonderful October blossoms! It has been very dry so do not forget to water your roses. Please remember to stop fertilizing your roses by the end of October.

The dates of WCFRS meetings for the rest of the year are: 10/11/25, 11/8/25, 12/13/25. You can access all the information about the WCFRS calendar by going to our website. Please refer others to our website for information about how to grow roses.

The dates for the 2026 WCFRS meetings are as follows:

1/10/26, 2/14/26, 3/14/26, 4/18/26 (1 week later than usual due to Azalea Festival the week before), 5/2/26 (Rose Tour), 6/13/26, 8/8/26, 9/12/26, 10/10/26, 11/14/26, 12/12/26.

The 2026 WCFRS meeting schedule with all topics/ speakers will be updated on the WCFRS website soon.

We had a good Zoom meeting in September with our speaker, Satish Prabhu. His rose garden is certainly amazing and it is unbelievable that he continues to take care of his large rose garden by himself! We enjoyed hearing his perspective on growing roses and seeing the pictures of his lovely roses.

On October 11 we will have our annual WCFRS Exhibition. You will enjoy participating with the exhibition and and you will learn by participating and seeing others' roses. The doors will open at 8:00 am so you can prep your roses for the exhibition. The judging will start at 10:00 AM sharp. You must have your roses/ photos in place on the tables labeled and ready. Please remember you need to come early to be ready. WCFRS does own some vases you may use but please bring your own vases to make sure we have enough.

There are 13 classes for rose blossoms:

1. Hybrid Tea and Grandiflora - one bloom per stem, no side buds
2. Hybrid Tea - fully open, stamens showing
3. Floribunda - one bloom per stem or spray of 2 or more open blooms
4. Fragrance - any rose
5. Shrub (includes David Austins)
6. Climber
7. Mini or Miniflora - 1 bloom per stem. no side buds
8. Mini or Miniflora spray
9. Old Garden Rose
10. Any Other Rose
11. Hybrid Tea or Floribunda Floating in a Bowl - no foliage
12. Mini or Miniflora Floating in a Bowl - no foliage
13. Rose Bouquet - 5 or more roses same or mixed in a vase

Please remember that every exhibit should have a 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. You will place the card on the table in front of your rose.

There are also 3 classes for photos.

Please remember the photo should be 4" x 6" and have your name on the back of the photo.

1. Photography: any rose at it's best form and beauty
2. Photography: any rose society activity
3. Photography: impressionistic photo - imaging a rose in a different way

If you have any questions about the rose exhibition, please call me or email me.

On November 8 we will have our annual WCFRS Auction. Please plan to attend. You will have a good time and this is a fundraiser for WCFRS. Please continue to gather your items to donate. You can bring in anything to do with roses, plants, gardening. The items can be new or gently used and may include live plants.

On December 13 we will have our annual WCFRS Christmas Brunch. We will all bring a covered dish and enjoy some wonderful food. Justine will have the sign up sheet at the November meeting for you to sign up for either a sweet or a savory item. We will have our annual gift exchange so if you wish to participate please bring a wrapped gift that costs approximately \$20.

We will have Jim Young come to our meeting on January 10, 2026 with all of his products we order. I will have copies of the supply order form at the November meeting. You need to turn in your completed list and your check/ money by the December 13th, 2025 meeting. Please remember our total order must be \$2000.00 for Jim to come. The items he has are much less expensive than you can buy them for locally and this is a fundraiser for WCFRS. Jim will give a talk on all the latest products and will answer your questions regarding products.

Please let me know of any marketing ideas you have for WCFRS. We continue to have new members join WCFRS. Please continue to welcome visitors and new members to our meetings.

Thank you to the WCFRS Board members - Mary Barwick, Debbie Caulder, Carol Rodriguez, Justine Pflaum, Samantha Nguyen) for everything they do!

Sadly, Jeanette Bullard has had to step down from the Board due to work and family obligations. Please thank her for her help.

Thank you to Norma McGee for her always great job on the newsletter!

Please let me know if you would like to serve on the WCFRS Board. We will have elections in December for the 2026 WCFRS Board.

I look forward to seeing you on October 11th! Thank you for being a part of WCFRS! Please let me know if you have any questions, feedback or suggestions.

Don't forget to smell the roses!

Denise H. Miller
President, WCFRS
(910)540-6857
denise_28411@yahoo.com

October in the Garden

By: Bob Knerr

What more is there to say?!! I say the same things each month, but that is what rose care is all about. 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 – Use a liquid fertilizer now. An organic will take too long to break down and will not be useful before the frosts begin. Stop fertilizing by the end of October.

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. 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. 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 some 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 foliage 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 work also.
6. You may want to refresh your mulch if most of the mulch you applied in the spring has turned to soil. This will protect the roots of the plants during the cool winter months.

Cut and enjoy your roses and share them with neighbors.

Good gardening!!!

“Bob”



Upcoming Meeting Dates

October 11, 2025

Doors Open @ 8AM

10:00 Annual Rose Exhibition

November 8, 2025

December 13, 2025

January 10, 2026

February 14, 2026

March 14, 2026



FROM THE EDITOR'S GARDEN

I wonder if you guys have people stop you in various places to ask advice about their roses. Quite often Hubby has someone stop him in the lobby of church, at Walmart or Costco, in our front yard or anywhere he sees people who know about his hobby. Of course, being the people person that he is, he is always happy to share his hard earned knowledge. I think the question he hears the most is "when should I prune my roses?".

Hubby has a reputation in our neighborhood of being the rose expert. However, we both think it's a never ending learning curve!! One thing we've learned this year is that roses do not do well growing on the opposite side of a fence that has a large scrub bush. The scrub bush sends out roots that love all the fertilizer that Hubby feeds his roses. Seems there's always something else to learn about growing roses!!

We'll see you at the WCFRS meetings where we'll keep learning how to grow the roses we enjoy.

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

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

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 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.***