

Petals To Pages



Wilmington Cape Fear Rose Society Newsletter





WCFRS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to April! Happy Spring! I know you are enjoying the growing of your roses and everything in your garden. It is time to think about your first application of organic fertilizer as the soil is warming up. Don't forget to do your spraying, fertilizing and watering so you will have a lovely first bloom and continued blossoms through the rose season. Mulch your rose beds to decrease weeds and keep the rose roots cool. Don't forget to keep your garden calendar to make sure you keep up with everything.

We had a great meeting in March. Our consulting rosarians answered everyone's questions and helped everyone learn how to grow roses in our area. Thank you to Bob Knerr, Anne Coleman and Debbie Caulder for participating and being so knowledgeable!

Please attend our next meeting on April 18, 2026 to hear our guest speaker, Ryan Lapps who will speak on "holistic approach to pest control to minimize the use of chemicals." Also please take time to thank Ryan for always being a gold sponsor for WCFRS. We appreciate Ryan's time to speak to us and his support of WCFRS! Please note that **this one meeting is on the 3rd Saturday of the month due to Azalea Festival being on the 2nd weekend of April.**

I hope you are getting excited about our 23rd WCFRS Annual Rose Garden Tour! We have 7 gardens that will be on the tour this year. Please plan to visit the gardens of David Lawrence and Barbara Hajek, Marcia Doering, Debbie and Mike Caulder, Samantha Nguyen, Justine and Tim Pflaum and Elizabeth Dolstad Young. My garden will be on tour and I look forward to seeing each of you that day in my garden. Thank you to the garden owners for being on our tour! Thank you to Mary Barwick, Rose Tour Chair and members of the Rose Tour Committee for their hard work on the tour. Thank you to each one of you that got sponsors for WCFRS. Please pass out flyers and signs for our tour and invite others to attend the tour.

Our annual picnic will be on June 13, 2026. Please note the time change for that meeting only. 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 am. Justine Pflaum, our Social Coordinator has a sign up sheet and you can sign up at our meeting in April. We will have barbeque and chicken and wonderful sides and dessert. We have this catered by Casey's and you do not want to miss this! If you do not sign up with Justine by signing the sheet please contact her by email at

jmpflaum@gmail.com or by phone at (240)498-2395 by June 1, 2026 so we can order the food. You and your immediate family are invited to attend the picnic at no charge; we do not have visitors at the members' picnic.

In July 2026 we do not meet or have a newsletter. We will return on August 8, 2026 for our next meeting.

We are planning our 2027 meetings. Please let me know if there are any speakers or topics you would like to hear about.

Thank you to WCFRS Board members Mary Barwick, Debbie Caulder, Carol Rodriguez, Justine Pflaum, Samantha Nguyen, Elizabeth Dolstad Young for their hard work. Thank you to Norma McGee for her continued great job on our newsletter.

Other information for members:

1. WCFRS re-joined the Garden Club of NC as an affiliate member.
2. WCFRS filed our taxes for 2025.
3. WCFRS sent our donation of \$300.00 to the Ability Garden and received a thank you letter from them.
4. WCFRS will discuss a semi-annual donation to SeaGate Baptist Church at the June meeting. The church continues to allow us to meet in their lovely facility at no charge.
5. WCFRS will discuss the WCFRS annual scholarship to Cape Fear Community College at the June meeting.

Please let me know if you have any questions, feedback or suggestions. I look forward to seeing you at our April meeting! Thank you for your continued support of WCFRS!

Don't forget to smell the roses!

Denise H. Miller
President, WCFRS
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denise_28411@yahoo.com

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



Upcoming Meeting Dates

April 18, 2026

Guest Speaker - Ryan Lapps

Social Time 9:30 -10:00 AM

Meeting 10:00 AM

May 2, 2026 (Rose Tour)

June 13, 2026

July 2026 - No Meeting

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, Wilmington, NC 28403

Or pay online.

Board Members 2026

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

Elizabeth Dolstad Young, 1633 Grandiflora Drive, 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.***