

Petals To Pages



Wilmington Cape Fear Rose Society Newsletter

*Wilmington Cape Fear
Rose Society*

Invites you to our 23rd Annual
Rose Garden Tour
9 am to 5 pm
Saturday May 2nd, 2026
Free & open to the public

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

Map

Wcfrs.org



WCFRS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to May! I know you have been really enjoying your first big bloom of the season and you have been smelling the roses every day! Please remember to stick to your fertilizing, spraying and watering schedule. It has been very dry so watering is very important at this time. I know I have had to water my roses more this year than ever before. Be faithful to keep your rose gardening calendar.

We had a very good meeting in April and learned so much from our guest speaker, Ryan Lapps who spoke on "holistic approach to pest control." Ryan was able to answer many questions and gave us great information. Thank you to Ryan for speaking at our meeting and being a Gold Sponsor for WCFRS!

Please plan to attend our WCFRS 23rd Rose Garden Tour on May 2nd from 9:00 am until 5:00 pm. We have 7 gardens on tour this year. Please thank all of the garden owners for allowing their gardens to be on tour and for all of their hard work. Thank you to David Lawrence and Barbara Hajek, Marcia Doering, Debbie and Mike Caulder, Samantha Nguyen, Justine and Tim Pflaum and Elizabeth Dolstad Young. My garden is on the tour and I can not wait to see you in my garden! Thank you to Mary Barwick, Rose Garden Tour Chair and the Rose Tour Committee for their hard work! Thank you to every sponsor of the tour - we could not do a free tour without our sponsors. Thank you all of you that helped to secure sponsors. Please bring people with you to the gardens. Please do not miss this opportunity to see beautiful roses!

Our WCFRS annual picnic will be on June 13, 2026. **Please note the time change for this meeting.** We will meet at 10:15 am instead of 9:30 for our social time, have our business meeting at 10:45 am and eat at 11:00 am. This is for members and your immediate family. We will have barbeque and chicken and lots of wonderful sides and dessert. If you have not signed up at the last 2 meetings, you need to contact Justine Pflaum, our Social Coordinator by June 1, 2026 by email at jmpflaum@gmail.com or call her at (240)498-2395 by June 1, 2026 so we can order the food.

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

Please let me know if there are any speakers or topics you would like to hear about in 2027.

Thank you to our WCFRS Board Members (Mary Barwick, Debbie Caulder, Carol Rodriguez, Justine Pflaum, Samantha Nguyen, Elizabeth Dolstad Young) for all they continue to do for WCFRS!

We wish Carol a speedy recovery from her knee surgery.

Thank you to Norma NCGee for your always great job on the newsletter!

We will discuss our WCFRS annual scholarship to Cape Fear Community College at our June meeting. We will also discuss our semi-annual donation to SeaGate Baptist Church for allowing us to meet in their wonderful facility.

There was a recent meeting of the rose society presidents at the Carolina District meeting of the American Rose Society. Each president completed a report with information about each rose society. Did you know that WCFRS is the 2nd largest rose society in all of NC and SC? Of course you know I would like to fill up the chairs at our meetings and become the largest rose society in NC/SC!

Please let me know if I can help you in any way. I look forward to seeing you in my garden! Thank you for being part of WCFRS!

Don't forget to smell the roses!

Denise H. Miller
President, WCFRS
(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 Kuern



Upcoming Meeting Dates

May 2, 2026

Rose Tour

June 13, 2026 - Annual Picnic

July 2026 - No Meeting

August 8, 2026

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.***

From The Editor's Garden

Finally! We have all come through the winter and our roses are producing gorgeous blooms. Hubby was so proud to present some of the first roses of the season to me. Now our house is filled with their fragrance.

The rain yesterday was needed so badly and we hope more will come this week which will help our water bill.

We're looking forward to visiting some of the gardens on the rose tour this weekend. Maybe we will see you there!

