

Petals To Pages



Wilmington Cape Fear Rose Society Newsletter

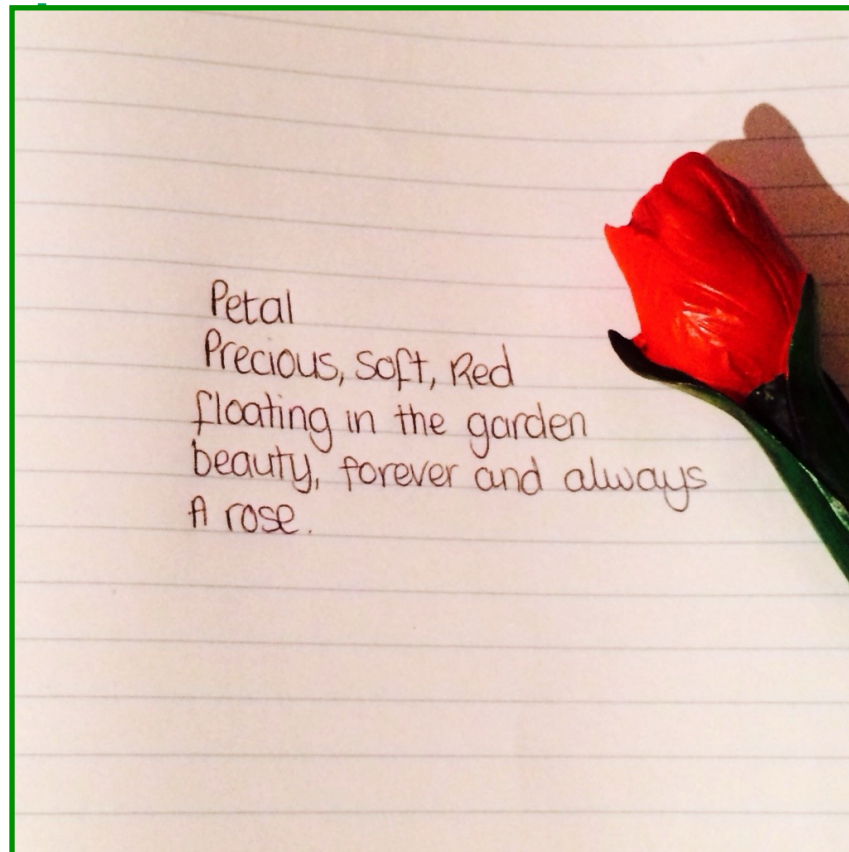


Photo and Poem Credit to Charlie Ann Alford

WCFRS Meeting

August 8, 2026



WCFRS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to August! I hope you are surviving the hot, dry weather of 2026. Thank goodness we finally received some substantial rain. Make sure to keep watering, spraying and fertilizing your roses. Be faithful in caring for your roses and you will be rewarded with great blooms in the Fall!

Our WCFRS picnic in June was delicious and we had a wonderful time! Thank you to Debbie Caulder for placing our order. Thank you to the Board members who helped set up and clean up for the picnic.

Our next meeting is August 8th. Two of our members will be speaking. Bob Knerr will speak on "Rose Care and Preparing for the Rose Exhibition." Bob is a rose expert and a Consulting Rosarian. He will be glad to answer your rose questions. Jennifer Acuri will speak on "Soil Health and Companion Planting." Jennifer is a flower farmer and owner of Sunrise Gardens. Even if you do not plan to exhibit roses there will be plenty of other information discussed. Please come and support WCFRS expert members.

On September 12th Larry Bogusz from the Camellia Club will speak on "Growing Camellia Japonicas in Full Sun." Please support other gardening clubs in our area and learn about growing other plants.

We will have our Annual WCFRS Rose Exhibition on October 10th. Please plan to bring at least 1 rose blossom. This will help you learn about roses. Please plan to exhibit, even 1 rose blossom. Bob Knerr will help you display your blossoms that day. It is a great way to see what roses grow well in our area!

On November 14th we will have our Annual WCFRS Auction. This is fun and helps to raise funds for WCFRS. Please start gathering things to bring to be auctioned. Please bring anything to do with roses, gardening or plants. These items may be new or gently used and may include live plants.

Our wonderful WCFRS fellow member, Charles Cooke recently passed away. Please join me in extending our sympathy to his wife and WCFRS member, Deborah Cooke. Charles was a

long time member of WCFRS and his lovely garden was on the WCFRS Rose Garden Tour many times. We will definitely miss Charles' presence at our meetings. WCFRS sent a memorial donation in memory of Charles to Bethel AME Church. WCFRS was named as a memorial donation organization for Charles.

2 Updates:

1. WCFRS membership voted to give a semi-annual donation to Sea Gate Baptist Church of \$250.00 to support the place where we meet at no charge.
2. WCFRS membership voted to give a \$1000.00 annual scholarship to Cape Fear Community College. We received a thank you note from the CFCC Foundation.

We had a meeting about the Rose Garden Tour on July 25th. Thank you to Samantha Nguyen for hosting this meeting at her lovely home. If you would like to be on the Rose Garden Tour Committee to work on planning the 2027 Rose Garden Tour, please let me or Mary Barwick know.

We are in the process of completing the 2027 WCFRS calendar. Please let me know if you know of any speakers or topics you would like to have at a WCFRS meeting.

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

I look forward to seeing you on August 8th. Thank you for being 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
(910)540-6857
denise_28411@yahoo.com

August 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 and water weekly if there has not been 2" of rain from the sky. Plants will need 5-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 even if the thermometer is supposed to reach 90 degrees. 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 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.

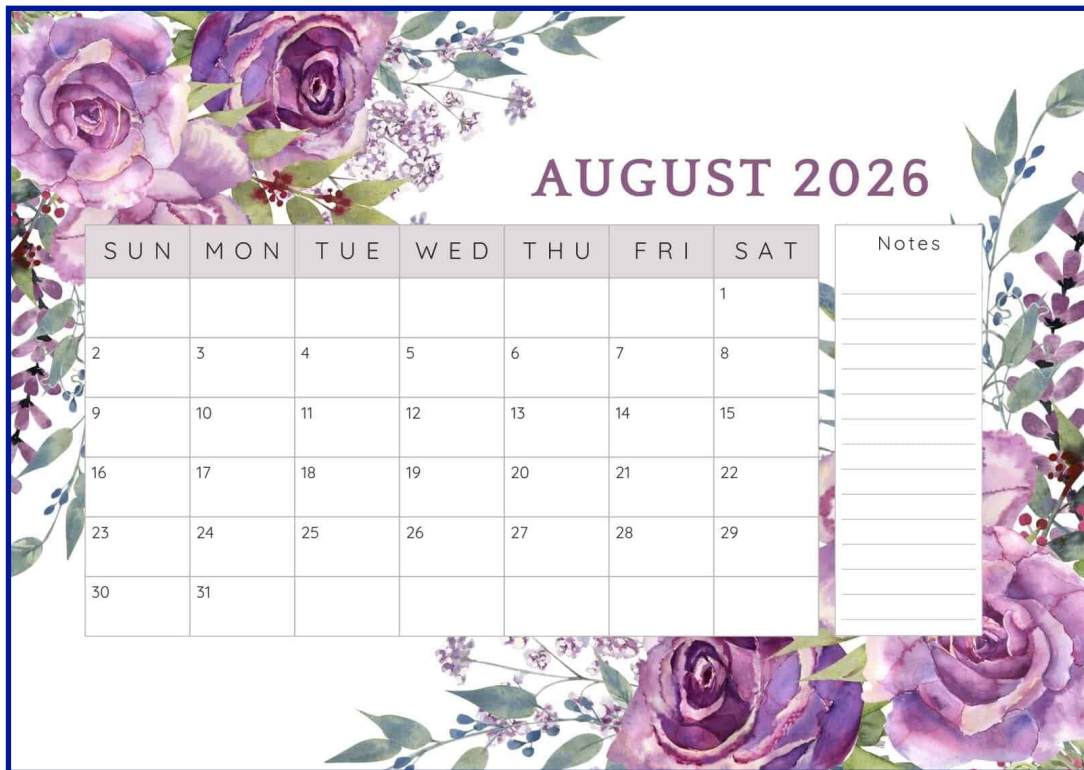
5. Mites could be a problem in the dry hot weather. They are tiny insects seen on the undersides of the leaves. If you are old like me you may need a magnifying glass to see them. They suck the nutrients out of the leaves and leave the leaves looking anemic and light pale green. They can be controlled 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 also work.

6. If you plan to show your roses at the Rose Exhibition in October, remember to cut them back during the month of August. Since the roses take from 38 to 45 days to re-bloom after you cut them back. Count back from the date of the exhibition to determine your cutback date.

Roses will vary depending on the variety. Know your roses! Also, sprays will take longer since there are more blooms to open. We can talk about this more at the meeting and answer any questions you might have.

Cut and enjoy your roses and share them with neighbors. Good gardening !!

“Bob”



Upcoming Meeting Dates

August 8, 2026

Speakers: Bob Knerr and Jennifer Acuri

9:30 to 10:00 AM Social Time

Meeting 10:00 AM

September 12, 2026

October 10, 2026

November 14, 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.***

Remembering Charles Cooke 1946-2026

We will miss Charles at the WCFRS meetings and seeing him in his beautiful garden. Charles and Deborah had an abundance of gorgeous roses each year and they graciously invited visitors for the Rose Tour. We extend our condolences to Charles' family and friends.

