

Petals To Pages



Wilmington Cape Fear Rose Society Newsletter



WCFRS Meeting

October 10, 2026



WCFRS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to October! The cooler weather is so nice and our roses are enjoying it! Please remember to stop fertilizing your roses by the end of October. Continue to spray your roses with fungicide until we have at least 2 hard freezes.

Thank you to Larry Bogusz from the Camellia Club who spoke on "Growing Camellia Japonicas in Full Sun" at our September meeting. His presentation was very informative and he had great pictures of his camellias.

On October 10th we will have our annual WCFRS Exhibition. Please come and enjoy participating with the exhibition and 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 at 10:00 AM. 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. Bob Knerr will be available to help you display your roses and answer any questions you have. Thank you in advance to Bob Knerr for his help and for judging the roses. We appreciate Bob's expertise and continued involvement with WCFRS!

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

We will award a blue ribbon for the winner of each class.

You may have visitors come and see the exhibits at 11:00 am.

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

On November 14th we will have our annual WCFRS Auction. This is fundraiser for WCFRS and always fun!

Please gather any items you want to donate. You can bring anything to do with roses, plants, gardening.

Remember the items can be new or gently used. You may bring live plants. Be ready to enjoy the bidding!

You may pay for any items you purchase with cash or a check at the meeting.

On December 12th we will have our annual WCFRS Christmas Brunch. Please plan to bring a covered dish

and enjoy great fellowship! There will be a sign up sheet at the next 2 meetings. We will have our annual

gift exchange that is always fun! If you wish to participate in the gift exchange please bring a wrapped gift

that costs approximately \$20.00.

We will have our annual elections for the WCFRS Board and Officers at the December meeting. Please let

me know if you are interested in serving on the Board. Please let me know if you would like to help with any

of WCFRS activities.

The 2027 WCFRS calendar is complete and is on the website. Please note the dates for 2027 so you will

know how to plan.

Planning is underway for the 2027 Rose Garden Tour. We had our first Rose Tour Committee meeting. We

will have the informational cards at the October meeting that you can use when you visit folks to ask for

sponsorships for the Rose Tour.

We will have 3 levels of sponsorship in 2027:

Platinum \$1000.00

Gold \$500.00 - \$999.00

Silver \$499.00 or less

Thank you to the 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 wonderful work on our newsletter!

I look forward to seeing you on October 10th. Thank you for your continued involvement with 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

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 10, 2026

Annual Rose Exhibition

8:00 AM Doors Open

Judging begins at 10:00 AM

November 14, 2026

December 12, 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

Congratulations to our WCFRS President, Denise Miller, for winning with her entry in the WECT calendar contest. Below is the photo she entered in the contest. It's one of her gorgeous roses, "Queen Elizabeth". Way to go, Denise!!!

I'm looking forward to seeing all the beautiful roses that each of you will be bringing to the WCFRS Rose Exhibition in a few days. Hubby is hoping that he'll have at least one rose to bring. Fingers crossed!!

See you soon!

Norma

2027 COLLECTOR'S CALENDAR

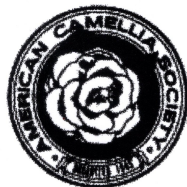
"Queen Elizabeth Rose"



Denise Miller from Wilmington, NC

WECT
WILMINGTON 6

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**AMERICAN CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

at Massee Lane Gardens

100 Massee Lane • Fort Valley, Georgia 31030
(478) 967-2358 • Fax (478) 967-2038 • www.americancamellias.org**PLANTING AND CARE OF CAMELLIAS**

Fact Sheet No. 2

Camellias are grown successfully out of doors in the United States from Long Island, NY, south along the Atlantic Coast, the Gulf Coast, along the Pacific Coast from California to Washington, and in interior sections of the country.

The camellia plant usually survives occasional temperatures as low as +10°F to 0°F. Some of the newer cold-hardy camellias can survive temperatures as low as -15°F extending the areas where camellias can be grown. Camellia flower buds are damaged by temperatures below +10°F to +15°F and open camellia blossoms are damaged at temperatures below -26° to +28°F.

Site Most camellias grow and produce better flowers in partial shade (50-70% shade). Plants located in full sun often are less dormant during warm periods of the winter and may suffer damage if cold weather follows. Plants in a northern or western exposure of a building or fence or otherwise protected from intense morning sun will usually stand more cold weather than those in an eastern or southern exposure. Choose a planting site with well-drained soil. Do not plant where shade trees with shallow root systems will compete with camellias for nutrients and water. Plants in the sun may suffer scald on the leaves or leaves may appear yellow rather than deep green.

Soil Preparation Camellias will grow in most well-drained slightly acid soil. A soil pH (degree of acidity or alkalinity) of 5.5 - 6.5 is best for camellias. A soil test made before planting will tell you what is needed to bring the soil to the desired pH and fertility level. Practically all soils will benefit from the addition of organic matter when planting. A mix of 50% soil and 50% humus (peat moss, leaf mold, sawdust, pine bark or cow manure) is recommended. This improves both the drainage and fertility of the soil.

Planting Camellias are generally planted in the late fall through the early spring although they may be set out any month of the year if properly cared for. The late fall through early spring period is preferred because the plant is approaching dormancy, or is dormant, allowing the plants to become well established in the soil. Adequate moisture is a necessity until the roots become well established. The newly developed roots will then provide enough moisture for the plant to start growth when spring arrives.

In some lower Gulf coastal areas camellias are planted on top of the ground because of soil pathogens. Please call ACS for specific instructions.

Allow a minimum of five feet between plants and preferably more when planting unless planting a hedge when a distance of three feet between plants is recommended. The following steps should be followed when planting a camellia:

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PLANTING AND CARE OF CAMELLIAS

Fact Sheet No. 2, page 2

1. Dig a hole at least two feet wider than the root ball.
2. Leave soil in the center of the hole undisturbed to prevent settling, as illustrated in the diagram.
3. Place ball on column of soil. The top of ball should be slightly above soil level. If transplanting a container-grown plant, wash away the soil from the root ball with a water hose or rough up the outer roots with fingers or knife to allow better penetration into the new soil.
4. Fill the hole around the root ball with a mixture of topsoil and organic matter.
5. Build a berm of soil around the plant three feet in diameter to prevent water from running off.
6. Mulch with straw or other organic matter around the plant.

