

**The Great Lakes District
Of the American Rose Society
Meeting Minutes
Spring Convention
March 17, 2012**

Opening

President Duane DeDene called the meeting to order at 3:18 PM.

Roll Call

Secretary Teri Sutton called the Roll:

DISTRICT OFFICERS (6):

District Director	Tom Kressbach
President	Duane DeDene
Vice President	Bill LeVasseur
Treasurer	Diane Bennett
Secretary	Teri Sutton
Prizes & Awards	Barry Crassweller

COMMITTEE CHAIRS (11):

Horticultural Judges	Jon Bradley Ellie Kressbach
Arrangement Judges	Jean Bradley
Old Garden Roses & Shrubs	Frank Von Koss - Not present
Roses in Review	Diane Bennett
GLD Web site	Clint Bremer - Not present
Review Editor	Sarah Hanifi
Review Publisher	Bill Blok
District Directory	Sarah Hanifi
Membership	Lynne Hammill - Not present
Historian	Jackie Steinert
Consulting Rosarian Coordinator	Rose Enders

SOCIETY PRESIDENTS (11):

Cherry Capital	Joe & Linda Kelly - Not present
Detroit	Roman Kwarcinski
Grand Valley	Joan Stoffer
Greater Lansing	Tom Crooks
Grosse Pointe	Duane DeDene
Huron Valley	Sarah Hanifi
Kalamazoo	Teri Sutton
Metropolitan	Tim Nawrocki - Not present
Northeastern	Charles Leibrand
Saginaw Rose & Garden	Jean Bradley
Thumb	Jim Holtrop

Teri reported 24 were present with 15 necessary for a quorum.

Corrections to the November 6, 2011 Minutes - None, Approved as published.

District Officer Reports

District Director – Tom Kressbach

Great to see such a tremendous turnout, best in the last 10 years. Thanks to Grosse Pointe and Metropolitan, Duane, Ellie, Sharon, Mary Porter, Frank Von Koss, and Paul Scheel for their efforts to make this event such a success.

Tom reported on the ARS finances and is hopeful they will end 2011 in the black, barring any unexpected costs. This past year he cautioned, \$74,550 in additional revenue came in from the hundred grand campaign, including an additional \$1,000 from 17 ARS districts. Tom thanked everyone here who donated and helped raise funding from our district for ARS. Our district donations put us in the middle of the pack. We are going to have to work in the future to keep the finances at ARS in the black. The current ARS operation budget is \$1,049,978. Expenses were reduced by \$230,000 since 2008 through staff cuts and magazine cost savings. Responses from ARS will be a little slower, since 1/3 less staff is available. BJ Harrington, the planned giving consultant is being funded by an endowment. Tom asked us to consider giving a patron donation. Patron donations were the highest in their history, slowly going up and off to a good start this year. By the end of 2012, the executive committee needs to consider if the district will help support ARS with a donation for 2012. ARS did not budget \$1,000 per district. Our district should consider a donation in the range of \$200-300 instead.

ARS election update: Nominations are in for 18 districts, 10 regions, with no contested elections. There are two candidates for ARS vice president, Pat Shanley and Diane Sommers. Both candidate materials are in our gift bags, Tom said both are qualified and both have talents. The election in May/June will be electronic email voting only. This decision was debated by the board with the vote motivated by cost savings. Local societies can help ARS members vote who don't have access to computers. Both candidates donated to our silent auction.

A question was asked if we need to give Tom direction regarding annual donations. A suggestion was made that each society in the district also be asked to donate. Tom said he wants to see how the donations flow across ARS. One anonymous donor gave \$30,000. There was a motion we consider an annual donation from the district to ARS and discuss the amount. This motion was deferred to new business. Current ARS membership as of March 1 is 9,005 with the trend continuing to decline.

President – Duane DeDene

Thank you to everyone who came and especially those who donated.

Vice President – Bill LeVassuer

No report

Secretary – Teri Sutton

Passed around up to date roster, for changes.

Treasurer – Diane Bennett

Diane distributed the district financial report ending March 16, 2012 with a balance of \$2,604.69. She also included financial transactions for 2011 and a summary income/expense statement for years 2000 through 2012. Motion to approve the financial report, approved, none opposed.

Prizes and Awards – Barry Crassweller

Barry reported the group met and this was the first time we had a quorum. Nominations were made, voted and approved for awards to be given out at a later time. We need to find a new Prizes and Awards chair as Barry's current 3 year term is complete. Since he has served two terms, (6 years) he is now term limited.

Horticultural Judges – Jon Bradley, Ellie Kressbach

Ellie reported we have 28 district judges including 4 apprentice judges. She encouraged us to invite apprentice judges to participate in our shows. She also said 2 of the 4 credits in today's programs will apply to the 4 credits needed to complete a judging audit update. The new judging guidelines will be online after the Tyler, TX board meeting in April. You will be able to go online and print them for your notebook.

Arrangements Judge– Jean Bradley

Jean reminded us to send arrangement schedules to her for approval. She noted many show schedules do not include arrangements.

Old Garden Roses & Shrubs – Frank Von Koss

No report.

Roses In Review – Diane Bennett

Everyone should have received their booklet. Renew your subscription to get a free copy.

Great Lakes District Web Site – Clint Bremer

No report.

Great Lakes District Review Editor – Sarah Hanifi

No report.

District Directory Editor – Sarah Hanifi

She has update-to-date copies available of the district directory for \$2.00.

Membership – Lynne Hammill

No report.

Historian – Jackie Steinert

No report.

Consulting Rosarian Coordinator – Rose Enders

Rose continues working on the new CR manual. She is predicting it will take a couple more years to complete. She thanked everyone for turning in reports, she received all but 4. If you are taking master gardener classes and you give her the speaker bio and the class materials she can get you CR credit for topics on soils, sprays or roses. The Saginaw rose and flower society cordially invites everyone to attend the CR audit school, July 14th, at the Horizon garden center 10-2:30. The last time there was a CR audit was back in 2007 in Detroit.

A question was raised do CRs have to attend these every 6 years or are there are other ways allowing you to continue your certification. Rose responded yes, you have to attain 4 credits in 6 years. There were 2 CR credits in the Kalamazoo conference and 2 more today. There must be one credit on chemicals. Karen Barnes gave her talk on chemicals in Kalamazoo and is doing the program again in Grand Rapids, April 3, Tuesday at 7pm at Meijer Gardens. Rose cautioned we could lose our national status if a CR gives bad

advice on spraying and chemicals. She reported we have 46 CRs in the state. Jackie asked how many people are planning to attend the CR audit school in July? The recommendation is to plan on about 20 attendees, and \$10 lunch.

Old Business

- District Conference & Rose Show Hosts Wanted
 - Fall 2012 Still asking for anyone to host the fall meeting, no volunteers, causes issue with awarding district awards. Looking for a host. No volunteers. Exec board will need to meet.
 - Spring 2013 – Saginaw Valley Rose and Garden ClubJackie reported the date is April 26-27, they have the hotel, have the guest speakers who will be nameless, including one big surprise speaker. Four point Sheraton right off the highway, 675 & Tittabawassee.
- District Rose Show Trophies - The trophies were cleaned out with a final selection of which 8 will be kept for which classes. Lansing is storing the trophies to be kept. The rest were donated to a school. Eight trophies are missing. Barry read the list of the missing trophies and the categories. He will post it on the GLD website and also have it printed in the review newsletter.

New Business

- National Miniature Rose Conference and Show – Columbus, OH July 27 – 29, 2012
info on this is in your packet.....encourage everyone to attend.
- Officer and Committee Positions
 - District Officers – Nominating Committee

Tom reported a nominating committee for district officers has been appointed by the president and district director. Rose Enders, Jon Bradley, and Frank Von Koss comprise the committee. He invited members to contact anyone on the committee if they are interested in the positions of President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary or Prizes and Awards Chair for the 3 year term beginning in 2013. The committee will make recommendations in the summer newsletter with copies sent to local societies. The election normally occurs at the fall district meeting, but if we do not have a fall meeting, it would take place at the fall planning meeting in November in Lansing. This is the best way to meet the spirit of the bylaws.

○Prizes and Awards Chair - Barry's term is up and he is offering to train anyone interested.

A motion was made by Chuck Liebrand that the Great Lakes District make a patron donation for 2012, and that the executive committee consider the donation amount and make a recommendation this fall. Motion Approved.

Adjournment

On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:07 PM.