

**The Great Lakes District
Of the American Rose Society
Meeting Minutes
Fall Planning Meeting
November 7, 2010**

Opening

President Duane DeDene called the meeting to order at 10:54 AM.

Roll Call

Secretary Teri Sutton called the Roll:

DISTRICT OFFICERS Present:

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

COMMITTEE CHAIRS Present:

Horticultural Judges	Ellie Kressbach Jon Bradley
Arrangement Judge	Jean Bradley
Old Garden Rose	Frank Von Koss
Roses in Review	Diane Bennett
Program Development	Vacant
GLD Web site	Clint Bremer
Review Editor	Sarah Hanifi
Review Publisher	Bill Blok - No
District Directory	Sarah Hanifi
Membership	Lynne Hammill
Historian	Jackie Steinert
Consulting Rosarian Coordinator	Rose Enders - No

LOCAL SOCIETIES REPRESENTED:

Cherry Capital
Detroit - Yes

Grand Valley - Yes
Greater Lansing - Yes
Grosse Pointe
Huron Valley
Kalamazoo
Metropolitan
Northeastern
Saginaw Rose & Garden - Yes
Thumb - Yes

Teri reported 18 were present with 15 necessary for a quorum.

Corrections to the September 19, 2010 Minutes

There were no corrections. MOTION to approve the minutes, passed.

Old Business - (see new business below).

District Officer Reports

District Director – Tom Kressbach

Since the last meeting in September, Ellie & Tom attended the ARS meeting in Atlanta. Harlan & Kay Schumacher won three times on the head table in the national rose show. Tom attended the board meeting which covered many topics: Approved placing the table of pesticides on the members only portion of the ARS website. CRs are required to submit roses in review reports. If you miss a year you will get a reminder letter and lose your CR status if another year goes by without a report. The CR manual is being revised by a committee with Rose Enders representing our district. A new position was filled by Jackie Dunn, planned giving director for ARS, funded by an endowment grant for the next 2 years. She lives in Columbia, Missouri and will be working out of her home. Prior to that she worked in fund-raising for the Audubon Society and the University of Missouri.

The 2009 audit was approved, details appear on the ARS website.

ARS elections are being reformulated beginning with VP, ballots will be electronic only. The primary reason is to save money by eliminating paper copying and mailing costs. People without computers will need to go to their public library to use their computers or send their vote in via a friend's computer.

The ARS has established an ad-hoc committee to enter into a contractual relationship for an Easy

Tea Rose study. They plan to certify them with an ARS recommendation for superior disease resistance and good growth with minimal care. Easy Tea tags can be purchased by breeders and garden centers for \$.10 per plant. Funds generated by the sale of the tags would be split with the ARS.

President – Duane DeDene

See new business topics below.

Vice President – Bill LeVassuer

Provided the following on the upcoming district conferences and who is hosting

- Spring 2011 April 8 & 9 - Bad Axe (will include 2 hour judges course)
- Fall 2011 No Sponsor to Date.

Treasurer – Diane Bennett

Ending balance as of April 16, 2010 was \$2,958.18. Detailed income and expenses were presented on her hand-out. Highlights include: Fall convention income of \$144 for district fee of \$3 per person with 48 attendees, Great Lakes Review publication expense of \$47.33 and paid ARS memorials for Joe Enders and Frank Bernadella. Ending balance as of November 6, 2010 is \$3,055.53. She also included detailed 2010 income and expenses, along with a current 10 year summary.

There were no corrections or additions to the financial report. MOTION passed to accept the financial report.

Secretary – Teri Sutton

No Report

Prizes and Awards – Barry Crassweller

Discussions continue to identify which trophies to keep and which to retire in the District rose show. The goal is to reduce the number of trophies in use by returning trophies in poor shape to original owners and/or donate them to Special Olympics or other charitable organization. Agreement was reached to keep trophies for the Queen of Show, Best of Show and challenge classes. Barry will present a proposed list at the April meeting for discussion with the Prizes & Awards committee. The purpose is to trim down the number of district trophies to the best

looking ones with room for additional names. It was noted Meijer Gardens prefers trophies. Certificates can also be very impressive with gold and silver and can be ordered individually online from ARS. Repurposing trophies, such as renaming by changing the plaques may also be considered. In the past, some family members were upset when a trophy they sponsored was lost or discontinued. Please check with the family or an estate before retiring them.

Horticultural Judges – Jon Bradley, Ellie Kressbach

We have 26 active judges, 4 who owe reports due Nov. 1st. We need a judging school, but we had a 2 hour judges audit at the fall 2010 GLD meeting in Detroit, and an additional 2 hour judges audit is being planned for the Spring 2011 GLD meeting in Bad Axe. Judges attending both audits will have 4 hours credit for updating their certification.

Ellie has ordered five 2010 updates to the judges manual. There will be a judging school in Ohio organized by Dr. Hering. The school is for all districts in region 4 and covers several states, including Michigan. More details will appear in the Great Lakes Review. The date is July 16-17, 2011, location is Delaware, OH. The school will be in conjunction with the top gun meeting and a bench rose show. The judging school involves an intensive day and a half including instruction, written test and practice judging. Ellie also has a write-up on becoming a judge to be included in the review and sent to local society presidents.

Arrangements Judge– Jean Bradley

There are 4 active arrangement judges in Michigan. The district needs to train more. People interested in becoming an arrangement judge must first become a horticulture judge.

Old Garden Roses – Frank Von Koss

Frank has written a quiz to be published in the next district newsletter. The winner will receive a copy of Howard Walters book. Local nurseries will have to pay more for David Austin roses. Two new Austin's are coming out: Wedgewood, a soft pink climber and Claire Austin, an 8' pure white.

Roses In Review – Diane Bennett

The new booklet will come out soon including 35 reporters and 336 reports.

Program Development – Open

No report.

Great Lakes District Web Site – Clint Bremer

Clint sends out an email to notify us when updates are posted to the GLD website. He includes GLD show results and an event calendar for district societies including local rose shows. Please send him updates as often as you can. He also needs an updated list of CRs. Clint is working with the hosting service to resolve difficulties with settings such as the scripting feature to aid in uploading PDF files.

Great Lakes District Review Editor – Sarah Hanifi

Asking for updates and articles. Sarah has been editor for the last 10 years. Thank-you Sarah!
Deadline for next review is Nov. 16.

District Directory Editor – Sarah Hanifi

Membership – Betty Watters

No report.

Historian – Jackie Steinert

No report.

Consulting Rosarian Coordinator – Rose Enders

No report.

New Business

- Spring 2011 Conference – April 8 & 9, 2011 hosted by Thumb Rose Society. held at the Franklin Inn. Agenda will be available by end of Jan.
- Fall 2011 Conference – Host Needed, Rose Show or not

Members discussed the difficulties in securing hosts for district rose shows. This has resulted in some districts hosting only one show a year, alternating spring or fall or hosting a spring meeting and a fall rose show. Diane offered to research doing a one day rose show at MSU here in

Lansing for Fall 2011. This idea is going forward as an experiment and may only include the show, a silent auction and lunch. Other societies are encouraged to volunteer members to help with the show and donate items for the auction to help cover costs. A suggestion was made to set up a booth for recruitment and advertising to encourage more public to attend and possibly join a local society.

The motion to proceed on a trial basis for a fall rose show only, researched by Lansing was made and approved.

Late addition to the meeting minutes:

Lansing was able to make arrangements with MSU and will hold the Fall 2011 District Rose Show on Sept. 17 at the Plant & Soil Sciences Building on the MSU Campus in East Lansing. More details to follow.

ARS Financials

Tom spent 13 hours in meetings in Atlanta with the majority focusing on ARS finances. Motions were made to adopt a budget for 2011, with expenditures exceeding revenues by \$30,000. Topics discussed to reduce the deficit included: reducing the number of ARS magazine issues, reduce staff and related benefits, reduce hours worked. ARS board is working hard on recruitment, but the ARS membership continues to decline. Membership fees don't cover all the revenue sources such as marketing.

Three budget related motions were discussed and approved.

1. Secure a line of credit. ARS has about 5 million in endowments, but those funds are restricted and cannot be used for operating expenses.
2. Request each district to donate \$1,000. There are only 18 districts, each with varying levels of members and funds. Smaller districts might consider merging which would further reduce the number of districts. This motion was approved by the ARS Board. We should receive information on this decision in January 2011. They are asking districts to consider and take action on this request early next year.
3. Undertake a \$100,000 giving campaign in 2011 focused on raising funds from the 317 affiliated local rose societies and ARS members in each district. We don't know how many local society members are also ARS members. The \$100,000 goal is based on a formula of approximately \$10 per member. Motion was approved.

The next ARS board meeting is June, 2011 in Winston Salem where they will follow-up with these decisions. The success or failure of these motions will become evident at the next board meeting.

GLD Support Fee

The Great Lakes District Support Fee currently at \$3, assessed on the number of paid attendees was proposed to continue at the same rate for 2011. Motion passed.

Proposed GLD Bylaw amendment

At the Fall 2010 GLD Business meeting we lacked a quorum. There were insufficient representatives from local societies. Although persons from those societies were in attendance, they could not be counted toward quorum requirements, as they also were filling roles as District officers or committee chairs. With reduced attendance in recent years, it is becoming more difficult to meet the quorum requirements in the technical manner set forth in the Bylaws.

The following proposed Bylaw amendment would address this potential problem and would still provide for representation for local societies.

Amend the GLD Bylaws by adding the following language to Article VI, Section 3, Quorum:

C. For purposes of determining a quorum for Special Board Meetings, or Spring and Fall Meetings, the District Director, and the elected Officers of the District, and the appointed Chairs of Standing Committees may be additionally counted, if necessary, as the designated representative(s) of their local society. Any such persons who are counted twice for quorum purposes, shall have only one vote on Board business meeting matters.

15 is a quorum.

Local Society Surveys

Duane reported he received four responses to date. Notes average societies report 50% active vs paid members and average annual dues are \$10-15. Other local activities include picnics and garden tours. His goal is to compile the survey results and report a summary to the district.

New Business

The district has \$306 in a fund for a judging school. Ideas discussed are to use some of the funds towards supporting new judges traveling to Ohio or offer it to the Buckeye for printing or other costs. Seeking approval to use some of the funds to offset costs. Determine funding based on how many people from Michigan attend the judging school. The purpose is not to deplete the entire fund.

A motion was made to create an incentive program towards getting new judges. This motion was amended to: Make a donation of up to \$25 per person who attends the Buckeye horticulture judges school July 16-17, 2011 from the Great Lakes district. Motion passed with one opposed.

When is the next CR school? Duane will ask Rose to set a date for the next school.

Past President, Marilyn gave a president's award to Clint Bremer for authoring the district website and keeping it up to date. Congratulations Clint!

A question was raised regarding the Great Lakes District making an ARS donation for Joe Enders. Motion to donate \$50 to ARS for Joe Enders. Amended from 25 to 50. Motion passed.

Bad Axe requested to keep proceeds from the silent auction at the Spring 2011 conference. Request approved.

A request was made to spend \$49 for Clint to keep the website going. Request approved.

Adjournment

A MOTION was made to adjourn the meeting – MOTION PASSED – meeting adjourned at 1:27 PM.