Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:25 AM by Alice Affleck, District Director.

Beverly Rose Hopper warmly welcomed the delegates and visitors to the Mother Lode Rose Society.

Roll Call of Societies was conducted by Secretary Lesa Lane. The usual 24/27 societies were represented for an 89% attendance level. In absentia: Honolulu, Lodi-Woodbridge, and Mendocino. We forgive Honolulu again.

Minutes of the Fall 2011 Business Meeting in Santa Rosa were approved - moved by John Shaw and 2nd by Lenore Ruckman.

Kent Duncan's Treasurer's Report and 2011 Budget Proposal were accepted. 1st, Rosemary Sawyer and 2nd, Rose Gilardi.
- The Criterion expenses are holding.
- Membership expenses are up due to Patty Click's programs.

Patty Click, Membership Chair (Patty Click spoke out of turn so that she could leave for a funeral):
- Her handwritten renewal letters are working (with retention).
- Handbook for Selecting Roses – 15 available to each club for use as incentives.
- A new Growing Beautiful Roses booklet is available for all clubs to purchase for club use. A Spanish version will be available soon.
- Wants societies to recognize ARS members somehow at each meeting, perhaps with a sticker on their name tags.
- All societies should have applications to join the ARS at each club meeting.

Alice Affleck, District Director's Report:
- Membership is up from last year.
- The District is fine financially and in membership.
- Society websites look good and up-to-date.
- The District did modestly well, about $8,000, in the ARS 100 Grand Campaign.
- The State of ARS:
  - Deferring most of her report to Jeff Ware, Executive Director of ARS.
  - No spring national show this year.
  - Fall national will be in San Ramon, hosted by the East Bay Rose Society.
COMMITTEE REPORTS

Jolene Adams, Consulting Rosarian Coordinator:
- NCNH District is tops in most categories.
- CR reports indicated more educational outreach activities than before.
- Roses in Review had great participation.
- Immigration/Emigration – 1 CR went to the Deep South and 1 moved in from the South Central District.
- Emeritus Status – 2 CRs going emeritus: Judy and Ken Jones.
- Too many CRs going emeritus especially since they turn in their reports and are still very active. A future discussion is needed.
- A written report was submitted.

Bob Parker, Horticulture Judge Chair,
- All but 1 judge filed a Judges’ Report.
- If a society awards ARS awards, the society schedule writer needs to send a copy of the schedule to Bob for approval.
- The ARS data base on-line is now the official list of roses for shows.
- New Guidelines for Judging Roses is almost ready and will be available as a download to an 8.5x11 inch format with proper pagination. New this time are:
  - A new chapter on Shrubs
  - A new introduction by Chief Horticultural Judge, Bruce Monroe.
- A judging school is in the works for July.
- Duane Carlson needs clerks for the Fall national Show in September.

Betty Ann Cassina, Arrangement Judge Chair:
- The 3 new apprentice judges were not listed in the District Directory again. Please add to page 9: Lesa Lane, Ellie Longanecker, and Karen Ernsberger.
- 2 judges removed from list: Harry Dedini, and Susan Chan McCarthy.
- Be sure to send all show schedules to her for arrangement review, especially if you award ARS awards.
- A national school/seminar is scheduled for June 1,2,3 in Franklin, TN. Go to allarrangementshow.fairmarsh.com for more info.
- Fall National Show, September 28
  - Charlene Mutschler will present a seminar worth 2 points on arranging.
  - No NCNH arranging judges to judge at show so that all arrangers in District will participate.
  - The arrangement schedule is not quite on-line yet.
- Photography class schedules should be sent to Bob Parker or Dave Coop for review.

Note: Alice apologizes for not listing the 3 new apprentice arrangement judges, again. (The Secretary blows a raspberry at Alice, again.)
Betty Mott - Programs and Speakers Chair:
- 34 speakers are now listed with 4 new speakers this year, 2 dropped from service, and 5 speakers added new programs.
- A written report was submitted.

Gregg Cook, Site Development Chair:
- Absent. No report submitted.

Linda and Ted Burg, The Criterion Editors:
- They have received some complaints that checks for The Criterion don’t get cashed right away. Ted explained that they wait for a few at a time to send to Kent Duncan, Treasurer, and then he does whatever he does with them.
- Please take subscription applications back to the societies.
- Need about 200 subscriptions minimum to make ends meet.
- Charlie Mallarkey of North Bay RS suggests we have a Pay Pal account.
- Please send rose show results to them for publication.

Gail Trimble, NCNH Webmistress, on vacation, per Alice Affleck:
- The website is current.
- A pdf version of Roses in Review will be available soon.
- She is retooling some forms for easier use.

Dean Davis, Nominations and Awards Chair:
- Needs nominations for Silver Medal. 10 societies have not responded.

Dave Coop, Trophies and Awards:
- The MS Hershey Bowl, a traveling trophy, is coming to our District: 5 Hybrid Teas of different varieties exhibited in different containers.
- National trophies not getting shipped to Fall National Show due to cost of freight. You win a fancy certificate and maybe some chocolates.

Roses In Review, Alice Affleck, Chair:
- NCNH had highest number of reports again.
- Joy, an outstanding Miniature, received Member's Choice Award due to the high number of reports from the Deep South.
- 4 gifts were randomly drawn from the list of names of reporters: Gail Trimble, Sherri Rodriguez, Brenda Wood, and Jolene Adams.
- Don Swanson is the new National Chairman of Roses in Review.

Alice Affleck, District Directors Report, cont.:
- 2 candidates for ARS Vice President: Pat Shandley and Diane Sommers. See literature and handouts about each of them.

Break 10:15
Resume 10:30 sorta
Alice Affleck cont.:
- District Directories will change next year.

Taxes for non-profits:
- For IRS – 990N
- For California - activate your society as a non-profit organization if you have previously applied for non-profit status. Jeff Ware says ARS has filed a non-profit status in California with a list of societies but it may not be in time for the May 15 deadline. Societies will have to file individually this year. If don’t have a state #, put “applied for” in correct box. May have to talk to a real person to get this done if your society has never had a state non-profit number.

OLD BUSINESS
Fall 2011 Conference Report, presented by Karen Ernsberger, President of Redwood Empire RS:
- 78 paid attendees. A check was presented to Kent Duncan, Treasurer for the District’s cut. ($5 per person.)
- 20 trophies not awarded.
- 30/33 members came out and helped.
- Karen expressed thanks in particular to Gregg Cook for acting as Chief Clerk and all those who helped with placement.
- Paid it forward by presenting a check to the East Bay Rose Society for $500 to help off-set expenses of next year’s show. Now that’s how you do it!

2012 National Fall Conference in San Ramon.
- Thomas Bolden, II:
  - Conference planning going well.
  - The Hornblower dinner cruise is cancelled. Instead, the Installation dinner will be held at Scott’s in Jack London Square, Oakland.
  - Website: futuramaofroses.com for information.

- Kathy Dooley:
  - Raffle Tickets are being sent out nationally. $20/ticket gets you a chance at 4 wonderful prizes too exciting to list here.

- Barbara Gordon – Quilt Show coordinator:
  - Quilt show not judged by judges but voted on by the public.
  - Minimum size is 2ft x 2ft.

- Elsina Dean:
  - Fund raising effort with Mother Lode RS: Wine Tasting at Amador Flower Farm. $25/ticket. June 2, 5-8pm. Many vineyards participating.
  - Speakers for Fall Conference: Tony Bracegirdle form England, Burleong Leon, Paul Zimmerman, Ping Lim, Tom Carruth, Tommy Cairns, and others.

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER
Jeff Ware, Executive Director of the American Rose Society
- Presented an overview of financial changes to make ARS more stream-lined and profitable. Expenses have been cut and revenues generated. For example,
ARS now has 15 employees down from 35. The wedding business is contracted out.
- Jeff showed us a slide show of the ARS grounds and some of the projects.
- Questions were asked and answered.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of 2013-2015 officers:
- Dean Davis presented the nominations of District officers:
  - District Director – Alice Affleck
  - Deputy District Director – Joan Goff
  - Secretary – Betty Mott
- Parliamentarian Joe Burek conducted the elections. No nominations from the floor. Voting unanimous.
- Dean Davis presented the nomination for the ARS Nominations and Awards Chair:
  - John Shaw
- Parliamentarian Joe Burek conducted the election. No nominations from the floor. Voting unanimous.
- All nominations accepted and elected.

Rosemary Sawyer, Golden Sierra Rose Society:
- No show this year.
- The First Annual Rose Day in Columbia Historical State Park will be held on May 20, 2012 from 10-4, with 2 planned walks/tours of the historical roses. Speaker Fred Boutine will discuss the Old Garden Roses in the Park.
- All are invited.

Lunch Break at 12:09 pm.
Resume at 12:50 pm.

Marie Hubbell of Peninsula Rose Society invited all to the 2013 Spring Business Meeting in Redwood City next year. Date: March 16, 2013.

RAFFLE
The Raffle was brilliantly conducted by Ernie and Sue Magill, raising $958.

The meeting officially concluded at 1:35 pm followed by a judging seminar presented by Bob Parker.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lesa Lane, District Secretary