

GREAT LAKES DISTRICT ROSE CONFERENCE

SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 2026

The Great Lakes District of the American Rose Society cordially invites you to join fellow rose enthusiasts and gardeners to their annual District Conference. All are welcome and bring a friend.

Location & Parking – The Conference will be held at the Food Safety and Toxicology Building located at 1129 Farm Lane in East Lansing on the MSU Campus. There is a large free parking lot located directly adjacent to the building's main entrance.

Overnight Lodging – Best Western Okemos – East Lansing. A block of 10 rooms (additional may be added if needed and available) has been arranged in support of the Conference.

- **Nights Reserved** – Friday, June 19, 2026. Note: It may also be possible to get the special room rate for an extra night (Saturday, June 20, 2026). Arrangements on an individual basis.
- **Room Rate** - \$129.00+tax/night for a two Queen Bed Room
- **Reservation Details** – Reservations can be made by calling the hotel directly at 517-349-8700 and asking for the **Great Lakes District American Rose Society room block** or by using the following booking link on-line: https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotel-rooms.23172.html?groupId=L21UK5T0 Cut-off date for the above rate is Friday June 12, 2026

Rose Show – The Conference will include a Simplified Rose Show. It will include horticultural examples of Large (Hybrid Tea, Floribunda, Grandiflora and Shrub) Roses as well as Miniature and MiniFlora Roses ONLY. The complete Rose Show Schedule is included as part of the final Conference Registration Package. Vases will be provided. ARS Ribbons and Award Certificates will be awarded.

NEW CATEGORY – The Unknown Rose. Any rose who has lost its name or never had a name. See Schedule for details.

Rose Show set-up and display will be in the lunchroom adjacent to the Conference Lecture Room. Entries will be accepted between 7:00 am and 9:30 am. **PLEASE** plan on bringing roses. The more the merrier.

Conference Speakers/Presentations – This year's Conference features

- **Session No. 1 – Rachel Berardocco** – Lakeview Roses. Rachel is a passionate rosarian and professional who has spent over two decades immersed in the world of roses. She was the founder of Palentine Roses, mail order division, a respected North American mail-order nursery known for introducing exceptional, disease-resistant European rose varieties to collector and garden enthusiasts across Canada and the United States. What Rachel began as a small side venture blossomed into a deep love of roses and a company devoted to quality, plant health, and supporting gardeners with reliable, high-performing cultivars. Her years of building international relationships and navigating the complexities of importing and distributing bare root roses, have helped Rachel and her parents introduce many outstanding varieties to North American Gardens.

Rachel is currently a Supply Chain Management Professional serving as an Inventory, Purchasing and Channel Lead at JC Bakker & Sons Nurseries. There she is leading the development of Lakeview Roses, a new direct-to-consumer division, overseeing rose culture and operations while helping shape its long-term vision. Rachel brings a thoughtful blend of horticultural passion and practical business experience and loves sharing what she has learned about selecting strong varieties, understanding plant health, and helping roses and rosarians thrive.

- **Session No. 2 – Josh Roggenbuck – Walters Gardens.** Josh Roggenbuck has been involved in agriculture for his entire life. Growing up on a sugar beet farm and helping work the fields from a young age, he learned the value of hard work and how our food is made. He discovered his passion for plants at a local Christmas tree farm and later at a landscape nursery. He attended Michigan State University to obtain his degree in Horticulture before building a greenhouse and garden center with his parents and operating it for nine seasons.

Walters Gardens is North America's leading producer of perennial liner plants with over 1000 varieties in their main catalog. They supply plugs and bare-root plants to nurseries, greenhouses, and mail-order companies in the United States, as well as to most provinces in Canada. Also, a breeding company, Walters Gardens introduces around fifty new varieties each season across dozens of plant genera. For over fifteen years, Walter Gardens has been the home of Proven Winner Perennials and proudly supplies genetics and liners for a lineup now over 250 varieties strong. Josh's job at Walters Gardens is to oversee sales in the Midwest. He also supports the company's initiatives with retail companies and landscape designers.

Last and most important: Josh resides in Mid-Michigan with his wife, Sarah, daughters Stella and Hattie, and dogs Sadie, Sebastian, and Petunia.

- **Session No. 3 – Dr. Sarah Houston – MSU Entomology Department**
- **Session No. 4 – Rose Forum Discussion** – This session will consist of a panel of experienced American Rose Society Consulting Rosarians (CR). The CR panel will provide their philosophy into growing and exhibiting roses and gardening in general and answer any questions you may have. Be sure to bring some stumpers.

Conference Program

- 7:00 am to 9:30 am – Rose Show Entry and Registration Check-in
- 9:30 am to 10:30 am - Rose Show Judging, Conference Welcome, District Meeting
- 10:30 am to 11:30 am – **Lakeview Roses – Our History Our Future by Rachel Berardocco from Lakeview Roses.** A look at the rose industry, where it has been and what does the future hold including a preview of some of the varieties that will be available soon.
- 11:30 am to 1:00 pm – Lunch, Rose Show open for viewing, Horticultural Gardens open to tour.
- 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm – **Perennial Pals by Josh Roggenbuck from Walters Gardens.** The latest in perennials that can be used as stand-alone accents in your garden or to compliment your beautiful roses.
- 2:00 pm to 2:15 pm – Break
- 2:15 pm to 3:15 pm – **Garden Insects the Good and the Bad by Dr. Sarah Houston.** Identification of beneficial and harmful insects commonly found in the garden as well as the control of the harmful ones while protecting the beneficial ones.

- 3:15 pm to 3:30 pm – Break
- 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm – **Rose Discussion Forum** – Bring your rose/garden questions and ask the panel for their advice. You may also join in the discussion. You never know what tips and tricks will be revealed.
- 4:30 pm – Raffle Drawings, Take down, Clean-up, Safe Travels Home

Great Lakes District June 20, 2026, District Conference Rose Show Schedule

ALPHABETICAL SHOW SCHEDULE CLARIFICATION -- All varieties exhibited in Sections A and B will be placed on exhibit tables in alphabetical order and further sub-classed by variety name. Roses entered in each separate sub-class will be judged against the merits of that variety. Ribbons may be awarded for each variety if the rose or roses are considered worthy by the judges. No award is required for any rose. The decision of the judges is final in determining the merits of the individual roses.

Section A Large Roses

AWARDS AND CERTIFICATES

- **QUEEN OF SHOW** - Presented to the best Blue Ribbon winner of Class 26.

ARS GOLD CERTIFICATE

- **KING OF SHOW** - Presented to the Second best Blue Ribbon winner of Class 26.

ARS SILVER CERTIFICATE

- **PRINCESS OF SHOW** - Presented to the Third best Blue Ribbon winner of Class 26

ARS BRONZE CERTIFICATE

Roses At Exhibition Stage

Class 26 – Hybrid Teas, Grandifloras & Floribundas, including their climbing counter parts. One bloom per stem, no side buds.

Class 27 – Hybrid Tea Single - Four (4) to eight (8) petal bloom(s), or classed as single by any current ARS publication. One bloom per stem or spray.

Open Bloom Roses

Class 29 - Hybrid Tea & Grandiflora Open Bloom – One bloom per stem, no side buds. Bloom should be fully open with stamens fresh and visible.

Rose Bloom Sprays

Class 30 - Hybrid Tea & Grandiflora Sprays – One stem, two or more blooms. Buds may be present but should not be predominant.

Class 31 - Floribunda Sprays – One stem, two or more blooms. Buds may be present but should not be predominant.

Class 32 - Polyantha Sprays - one stem, two or more blooms. Buds may be present but should not be predominant.

Climbers

Class 33 - Climbers - any large flowered climber (LC1) or Gigantee (HG) or Hybrid Wichurana (HWich). One stem, one bloom or multiple blooms.

Old Garden Roses

OLD GARDEN ROSES are those rose classes listed under OGR on page 4 of the 2026 *ARS Handbook for Selecting Roses*. For this show, the Species (Sp) class may be entered in this section.

Class 34 - Dowager Queen – One stem, one bloom with or without side buds, or spray of an Old Garden Rose introduced before 1867, or with unknown date of origin prior to 1867. Date of origin is to be written on entry tag, visible to judges.

ARS DOWAGER QUEEN CERTIFICATE

Class 35 - Victorian Award – One stem, one bloom with or without side buds, or spray of an Old Garden Rose introduced in 1867 or later, or with unknown date of origin after 1867. Date of origin is to be written on entry tag, visible to judges.

ARS VICTORIAN AWARD CERTIFICATE

Shrub Roses

Class 36 - Classic Shrub Roses, For roses classified as Hybrid Kordesii (HKor), Hybrid Moyesii (HMoy), Hybrid Musk (HMask), or Hybrid Rugosa (HRg) in the *ARS Handbook for Selecting Roses*. One stem, one bloom or multiple blooms.

Class 37 - Modern Shrub Roses, Those Shrubs classified with an “S” in the *ARS Handbook for Selecting Roses* including Knock out Roses, except David Austin English roses. One stem, one bloom or multiple blooms.

Class 38 - English Roses, For English roses hybridized by David Austin only. One stem, one bloom or multiple blooms.

Section B MINIATURE & MINIFLORA ROSES

AWARDS AND CERTIFICATES

- **QUEEN OF MINIATURES** - Presented to the best Blue Ribbon winner of Class 42.

ARS GOLD CERTIFICATE

- **KING OF MINIATURES** - Presented to the second best Blue Ribbon winner in Class 42.

ARS SILVER CERTIFICATE

- **PRINCESS OF SHOW** - Presented to the third best Blue Ribbon winner of Class 42.

ARS BRONZE CERTIFICATE

At Exhibition Stage

Class 42 - Miniature & Miniflora Roses including their climbing counterparts. One bloom per stem, no side buds.

Class 43 - Single Petaled Miniatures & Miniflora Roses – Four (4) to eight (8) petal blooms or classed as single by any current ARS publication. One bloom per stem or spray.

Open Bloom Roses

Class 44 - Miniature Rose Open Bloom – One bloom per stem, no side buds. Bloom should be fully open with stamens visible.

Class 45 - Miniflora Rose Open Bloom – One bloom per stem, no side buds. Bloom should be fully open with stamens visible.

Rose Bloom Sprays

Class 46 - Miniature Rose Sprays – One stem, two or more blooms. Buds may be present but should not be predominant.

Class 47 - Miniflora Sprays - One stem, two or more blooms. Buds may be present but should not be predominant.

Section C

The Unknown Rose

Class 50 – This class is open to **ALL** rose types (Hybrid Tea, Shrub, Grandiflora, Floribunda, Miniature etc.) at any stage of bloom. Every garden has a rose or two or three that was planted years ago whose name tag has long ago been lost in time or they have inherited a rose whose name was never known. Now is your chance to show it off. If you have these roses in your garden, you are encouraged to share it with others.

AWARDS AND CERTIFICATES

- **QUEEN OF UNKNOWN** - Presented to the best rose in Class 50.

ARS GOLD CERTIFICATE

- **KING OF UNKNOWN** - Presented to the second best rose in Class 50.

ARS SILVER CERTIFICATE

- **PRINCESS OF UNKNOWN** - Presented to the third best rose in Class 50.

ARS BRONZE CERTIFICATE

- **BEST SCENT** - Presented to the unknown rose (Class 50) that has the best scent.

**Great Lakes District of the American Rose Society
District Conference Registration Form
Saturday, June 20, 2026**

**MSU Campus Food Safety and Toxicology Building, 1129 Farm Lane East Lansing, MI 48823
Cost \$29.00/person Includes Lunch**

Registration Required By Thursday, June 11, 2026

Please PRINT clearly

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

ZIP _____ **EMAIL** _____

PHONE _____ **CELL PHONE** _____

ARS MEMBER -- YES _____ NO _____

LOCAL ROSE SOCIETY – YES ____ - society name _____ NO _____

LUNCH CHOICES – Grand Traverse Pie Company - pick one per attendee. (**Note:** type of pie chosen at random by GTPC). **CHOOSE ONE** – Boxed Lunch (sandwich) **OR** Boxed Salad

BOXED LUNCH w/ PIE CHOICES – **Gluten Free Bread is available, please indicate (GF) if required. Full sandwich, chips, and pie**

Chicken Salad _____ Mediterranean Veggie _____ GT Club _____

Turkey Cheddar _____ Chicken Pesto _____ Ham & Swiss _____

Turkey Bacon _____

BOXED SALAD w/ PIE CHOICES

Cherry Chicken _____ House _____ Chicken Fiesta _____

Dressing 1000 Island ___ Balsamic Vinaigrette ___ Blue Cheese ___ Ranch ___ Maurice ___

Berry Cherry Vinaigrette ___ Chipotle Ranch ___ Lite Italian ___

Number of Attendees _____ \$29.00 each = _____

Checks Payable to – **Great Lakes District**

Mail this sheet -- Registration and Lunch Information, and payment to

Diane Bennett
3625 Observatory Lane
Holt, MI 48842-9418

For additional information contact Duane DeDene, 586-252-3637 or roseprez@att.net

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NOT TO SCALE

