

To paraphrase Lionel Richie: Hello! It's me again. Well, if you are seeing this article, it must be time for the annual Roses in Review (SIR) survey, and you would be right. Starting in early July through September 26, it is the season of giving me your evals.

For those new to the process, the American Rose Society (ARCH) gathers a list of the newer introductions of roses over the last 2-3 years and asks its members and anyone growing roses to rate them. The rating is a 6-10 rating scale in whole numbers for garden hardiness and for exhibiting robustness of each listed rose. Do not fret if you do not exhibit. Just leave it blank. (The results are from the garden rating.) You are also asked to rate fragrance, susceptibility to powdery mildew and black spot. There is a rating for winter hardiness, but we do not have ski dandruff nor outdoor ice cube capability issues except for those living in New Mexico. Message here is check the ***I do not know*** box. There is room to put your pros and cons comments. The National Chair, Don Swanson, meshes all this data and publishes it in *The American Rose* magazine. The numeric national average then is added to the annual *Selecting Roses* handbook that all ARCH members receive at the end of the year.

We, of the Pacific Southwest District, have the largest number of ARCH members. We garden in some of the harshest climate conditions and need to have our voices, gripes and loves of the new roses be heard. Consulting Yossarian need to complete this survey even if you do not grow any of the roses listed. This also goes for any of our members who also do not grow any of the roses listed. Displeasure regarding the lack of quality roses needs to be heard. How does one fill out a survey without roses to rate? Easy. Register on the SIR site and check the box I do not grow any of the roses listed.

No computer, confused on how to do this or just want to put me to work? *The American Rose* has a paper version. Fill this out in your best penmanship and mail it to me. I will email you to let you know it has been entered. Otherwise go to rosewood and look for the Roses in Review box in the upper right corner of the home screen. A tutorial for you will be available to guide you through the on-line process.

I will compile the data just for our district highlighting the highest rated roses with a score of 8 and above and also break it down into the various classes.

Of note from the survey results, we district coordinators will also vote on 2 annual awards: ARCH Member's Choice and the James Alexander Gamble Fragrance award. I vote from the 2 that are given to me and cast it on the one with the highest rating from our district's results.

Thank you for taking the time for our Roses in Review in '22!

Kathy Monge