ANNUAL CONSULTING ROSARIAN REPORT FOR 2011

February 28, 2011

David R. Long, Yankee District CR Chair

Consulting Rosarians are required by the American Rose Society, as part of the Society's continuing educational mission, to submit to the District CR Chair an annual report using a form approved by the ARS.

The purpose of submitting the CR Annual Report is several folds. First, the report is a cross reference for the CR Chair to make sure all CRs are up to date with any recertification that was necessary last year and those who will need recertification this year. Second, the reports also track any CR credit that our CRs are claiming for programs they attended for CR credit in case those credits weren't forwarded to the Chair in the past. Thirdly, the Reports are useful in determining a CRs qualification for the ARS Outstanding Rosarian certificate. Fourthly, the Reports share the experiences and knowledge of each CR to the rest of the group on chemicals used (or not used), new garden products, organics used (or not used), cultural practices, roses grown, attainable goals for the coming year, suggestions to make the CR program more effective and comments regarding the CR Emeritus program.

This year marks a significant change in the reporting form. The NEW reporting format is a compilation of our District CR inputs, ARS suggestions and a review of several other ARS District reports from around the country. There are currently thirty nine (39) active CRs in the Yankee District, which is down from fifty two (52) CRs in last years reporting period. The decrease of thirteen (13) CRs is a result of the following reasons: Emeritus Status (4), Deceased (1), CR Requested Drop (3), Dropped for lack of points (2) and Dropped ARS membership (3).

The GOOD news is that thirty-eight (38) out of thirty-nine (39) active CRs submitted their Annual Reports representing thirty-one (31) gardens. These reporters grow a total of (5341) roses which is up from last year's Report of (5100) bushes grown in (30) gardens with (37) CRs reporting.

The reporters were: Candler, Cannistraro, Chute (2), Cunningham (2), Davis, Dorschel, Ehrenreich (2), Fraser, Fuss, Gammon, Hatch, Jung, Long, Macneil, Madden, Martin, Martorelli, Mascott, Mattia, Mendes, Morin, Mosher, Nickerson (2), Osborn (2), Paniccia, Parsons (2), Prill, Rogers (2), Russo, Suvari and Swanson.

INTERESTING that compared to the CR Annual Report of <u>2003</u> there were fifty-eight (58) CRs in the District with forty-four (44) reporting that they grow (8431) roses of which Mike Lowe grew (1300). **Times certainly have changed!** In the Annual Report of <u>2004</u> there were seventy-seven (77) CRs with forty-nine (49) respondents representing (38) gardens and growing (7854) bushes again with Mike Lowe growing (1500) roses.

MOST FREQUENTLY RECOMMENDED TO NEW ROSARIANS (In order by the number of times mentioned – at least 3 reports)

ROSE	VOTES	ROSE	VOTES
Knockout	17	All the Rage	3
Julia Child	11	Bonica	3
New Dawn	8	Claire Matin	3
Home Run	7	Easy Does It	3
Super Hero	7	Europeana	3
Cape Diamond	5	Jeanne Lajoie	3
Fourth of July	4	Lady Elsie May	3
Gemini	4	Outta the Blue	3
Pretty Lady	4	Playboy	3
Yellow Submarine	4	The Fairy	3

MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED WINTER HARDY VARIETIES
(In order by the number of times mentioned – at least 3 reports except for MinFl and OGRs which were extended to 2 reports)

HT/GR	VOTES	<u>FL</u>	VOTES	<u>CL</u>	VOTES	<u>MIN</u>	VOTES
Veterans' Honor	10	Julia Child	20	New Dawn	20	Gourmet Popcorn	4
Gemini	9	Pretty Lady	13	Jeanne Lajoie	15	Kristin	4
Elina	7	Passionate Kisses	9	Clair Matin	11	X Rated	4
Liebeszauber	5	Playboy	9	Fourth of July	11	Cupcake	3
Olympiad	5	Hot Cocoa	8	Dublin Bay	8	Incognito	3
Touch of Class	5	Scentamental	6	Altissimo	4	Merlot	3
Double Delight	5	Super Hero	6	City of York	4	Norwich Sweetheart	3
Earth Song	4	Europeana	5	Rhode Island Red	4	Oxbow	3
Mother of Pearl	4	Betty Boop	4	Westerland	4	Red Cascade	3
Mister Lincoln	4	Sunsprite	4	Colette	4	Baby Love	3
Cherry Parfait	3	Rainbow Sorbet	3	Brite Eyes	3	Green Ice	3
Dublin	3	Lavaglut	3	Eden	3		
Ingrid Bergman	3	Nicole	3	Golden Showers	3		
Moonstone	3			Morning Magic	3		
Queen Elizabeth	3			Aloha	3		
Folklore	3			Golden Arctic	3		
Tropicana	3						

<u>MinFl</u>	<u>VOTES</u>	<u>SHRUBS</u>	VOTES	<u>OGRs</u>	<u>VOTES</u>
Leading Lady	5	Knockout	15	Rosa Mundi	7
Sleeping Beauty	3	Home Run	9	Mme Hardy	7
Violet Mist	3	Bonica	8	Rose de Rescht	6
Ambiance	2	Graham Thomas	7	Louise Odier	6
Butter Cream	2	Lady Elsie May	7	Celsiana	5
Edisto	2	Outta the Blue	6	Zephrine Drouhin	4
First and Foremost	2	The Fairy	6	Alika	3
Focal Point	2	Carefree Delight	5	Duchess de Brabant	3
Power Point	2	Heritage	5	Chevy Chase	2
Regina Lee	2	Mary Rose	5	Comte de Chambord	2
Sam Trivitt	2	Sally Holmes	5	Ducher	2

<u>MinFl</u>	VOTES	<u>SHRUBS</u>	VOTES	OGRs	VOTES
Shenandoah	2	Carefree Beauty	4	Fantin-Latour	2
Starship	2	Distant Drums	4	Green Rose	2
Valentine's Day	2	Grandma's Blessing	4	Ispahan	2
		Macy's Pride	4	Old Blush	2
		Yellow Submarine	4	Rosa Alba	2
		All the Rage	3	Harison's Yellow	2
		Golden Wings	3	R. gallica officinalis	2

The number of different roses 'Recommended to New Rosarians' totaled ninety nine (99). While the number of different roses 'Mentioned as Winter Hardy' had the following totals: Shrubs (65), HT/Gr (64), F (51), Min (51), OGR (44), Cl (43) and MinFl (31). I think this closely matches what we all see at the various rose shows, of course depending on the weather. 'Shrubs' had the longest list of roses mentioned, which is also indicative of rose show entries recently. Note that Knockout is first in 'Recommended' and in 'Shrubs' categories, while Julia Child and New Dawn were the top vote getters of any category.

The reporters that grow the largest number of roses are: Oz & Audrey Osborn (750), Irwin & Cindy Ehrenreich (500), Lee Macneil (270), David Candler (267), three rosarians (Long, Mendes and Swanson) grow (250) each. The fewest number of roses grown by any reporter is (30).

USE OF PESTICIDES (IF ANY) and their effectiveness against the following:

Seven (7) CRs report that they do not use any pesticides.

Most follow Integrated Pest Management Principles (IMP) – spray only when identified.

<u>Insects:</u> <u>Japanese Beetles- milky spore</u>. Others use <u>Windex with ammonia</u>. <u>Merit</u> – fair control.

Seven (7) CRs do not spray at all. Hose off Aphids. Pick and kill JBs.

<u>No insecticides</u> – Biosafe (nematodes to kill grubs). – <u>Aphids</u> – washed off with water or soapy water. Thrips – cut off infected blooms.

Imidacloprid for Thrips – works well with regular use.

Use of Bayer Complete Insect Killer.

Merit Granular (Imidacloprid) – 100% effective. (Another – Excellent!)

Ortho Isotox – very effective on controlling many insects.

Bayer All-in-One.

Immunox – Very effective.

Spinosad - in spring for worms twice - effective

Monterey Garden Insect Spray (Spinosad) – for winter moth – worms – very effective

Insecticidal soap – Neem – Good

Orthene & Merit – very effective

 $\underline{\textbf{Midge:}}$ Use of $\underline{\textbf{Merit}}$ – some think resistance may be working against Merit.

Some use Bayer Complete Insect Killer.

Spectracide Insect Spray

Bayer All-In-One Rose Care – Good

Bayer Advance Disease Control for Roses with Imidacloprid – good control

Merit and B-Cyfluthrin – fair control.

<u>Bayer Advance Concentrate and Bayer Granules (soil treatment)</u> – still had troubles – not very effective.

Bayer Two in One

Mildew-Powdery: Bayer Advance Disease Control - good control

Use of generic Physan as a fungicide or disinfectant – it's more of a surfactant that helps the leaves dry quickly – mixes his own from cheaper sources.

Use of **Bonide Sulfur Plant Fungicide**.

Banner Maxx with Mancozeb – very effective.

Banner Maxx, Compass – very effective

Banner Maxx, Compass, Rubigan - Effective

Bayer Two in One

Bayer All-In-One Rose Care - Good

GreenCure - Worked well

<u>Immunox Fungicide</u> – good

Alliette – the best

Mildew-Downy: Mancozeb.

Bayer Disease Control (Not good results).

Daconil alternating with Banner Maxx. - Good

Daconil and Funginex or Orthenex – in combination

Bayer All-In-One Rose Care – Good

Alliette – very helpful – only when conditions warrant.

Stature DM, Manzate - Effective

<u>Blackspot:</u> <u>Bayer Advanced Disease Control</u> (Very Good results). Another report –

Good Control – Many CRs report very good results.

Immunox – good results.

Use of Bonide Sulfur Plant Fungicide.

Some use <u>Daconil</u> and alternate with <u>Compass or Banner Maxx.</u>, also combine with Mancozeb.

Mancozeb & Spectracide – every 10 days to 2 weeks.

Bayer All-In-One Rose Care – Fair

Alternating <u>Mancozeb with Compass</u> and <u>Mancozeb with Banner Maxx</u> every two weeks – Excellent Results.

Banner Maxx, Manzate, Compass – some BS seen

Bayer Two in One

<u>Green Cure</u> – twice a year – effective only when used as recommended

Other Fungus: Daconil and alternate with Compass or Banner Maxx, also combine with Mancozeb.

Bayer All-In-One Rose Care - Good

<u>Bayer Disease Control</u> – effective but costly.

<u>Other-Specify:</u> Rose Slugs –BT. Some CRs practice 'organic gardening' and do not use any chemicals. Very satisfied with Bayer.

Use of <u>Neptune's Harvest</u> in every spray program – promotes healthier plants – less susceptible to disease.

NOTE: Organic Growers: Seven (7) CRs report they grow as organically as possible.

<u>LIST OF NEW GARDEN PRODUCTS that helped to grow better roses and the assessment of their effectiveness:</u>

- West County leather gloves very effective, comfortable and lasting
- Longnecker Weeder Ergonomic
- Just started using <u>Compost.</u>
- <u>Drip irrigation system</u> gardens thrive with regular applications of water.
- Scuffle hoe works the soil and removes weeds.
- Bio-tone Starter Plus (Espoma) feels it helped with establishing new plants
- Deer Off worked well to deter deer.
- Deer Solution Worked very well to resist deer.
- Mills Magic Mix seems to be successful
- Bayer-All-in-One very effective
- Fertilizer 14-14-14 Good results.
- Magnum Grow Fertilizer Larger Roses
- Messenger Grew foliage out of proportion to blooms
- Alfalfa Pellets Stronger growth
- <u>Bayer Advance Disease Control for Roses</u> works well when Daconil, Compass, Banner Maxx doesn't may be seeing a resistance to the older products.
- Digital camera to record status and compare with previous times.
- <u>Hudson</u> 4 gal. <u>Never pump sprayer</u> loves it!! excellent coverage and easy to use.
- Keyway Soil Tester Returned to Rosemania not accurate readings

RECOMMENDED CULTURAL PRACTICES:

Use of organics – Type and Source:

<u>Nearly all CRs</u> use <u>some or all</u> of the following: Commercial Compost, homemade compost, manures and alfalfa pellets.

<u>Some use</u> a combination of rabbit manure, horse manure, seaweed and chicken manure. <u>Compost</u> of 6 yrs old cow, horse, sheep manure and whatever bedding such as shavings and straw.

Use <u>Compost</u> and mix a time release such as <u>Osmocote</u> with cottonseed meal, alfalfa and dried blood.

<u>Fertilizing programs</u> range from Bayer products. To one reporter using a program of rabbit manure, horse manure, Plant Tone and Holly Tone.

Rose Tone in April and after each bloom.

Miracle Grow once a month at the rate of one table spoon per gallon of water.

<u>Rose Tone</u> – 6 applications – April to Sept.

Fertilizing four (4) times per season.

Three high season applications of <u>Bloom Booster</u> 12-52-9.

Mills Magic Liquid.

One grower starts with <u>10-10-10</u> in early spring followed by <u>Rose Tone</u> every 4-6 weeks with Miracle Grow for roses as a 'boost'.

Another uses <u>14-14-14</u> with <u>Epsom salts</u>, ironite and Neptune's Harvest.

Use of 10-10-10 with Alfalfa &/or Seaweed -3 to 4 times a year.

One tablespoon <u>20-20-20</u> with water soluble micronutrients per gal. per bush every two or three weeks. Blood meal - scratch in 2 to 3 tablespoons 2 times a year.

Bayer Advance 2-1 Rose and Flower – Fertilizing and systemic insect.

Espoma products in spring, once per month May, June, July and August. Include

Neptune's Harvest in spray and drench in newly plated roses.

10-10-10 in spring – Miracle Grow rest of summer.

One grower uses only <u>1/8 cup of 10-10-10</u> twice a year.

Another grower uses \(^3\)4 cup of 10-10-10 per bush May, June & July

<u>Espoma Rose Tone</u> – 2 apps. – very dilute liquid fertilizer when watering.

10-10-10 three times a year monthly in summer.

<u>Bradfield or Rose Tone</u> brands of rose food, 1 cup/month – May thru August – <u>Epsom</u> Salts in May.

Time release fertilizer weekly with ½ strength Alaska Morbloom and Fish.

Osmocote for new plants – Organics for mature plants.

Sprayers ranged from Fimco battery operated 4 to 10 gal. cart mounted - to a 6 gal backpack.

<u>Fimco Electric</u> – 5 gallon

Echo Backpack – 6 gal., Mantis, Hudson or Northern Tool – 2 or 3 gallon hand pump.

Mantis – battery operated. One gallon pump.

Battery operated 5 gal. Rocket Sprayer.

Miracle Grow liquid fertilizer hose end sprayer.

Hudson 4 gal. battery operated 'Never pump' sprayer.

Water Systems: Nearly everyone uses a hand held wand. Many have underground weeping hoses (6 inches between holes) and some have above ground Drip Works emitters. Dramm Dribble Rings with black poly pipe – used by many. Water at least 1 to 2 inches a week. Timed drip hose for container roses.

Drip irrigation on timer set for every evening after 6PM for 40 minutes.

One grower only waters during the most severe droughts.

DripWorks shrubblers – no overhead watering.

<u>Winter Protection:</u> Mounding with shredded leaves -----Most reporters use one or combination of: mulch, compost, soil, seaweed and manure mounded 8 to 12 inches. Wrap climbers and other bushes as needed with burlap for wind protection. Make sure the rose you plant is suitable for your zone. Plant roses deep – maybe 2 to 3 inches below grade. Metal or plastic 10 – 12 collars used around bush packed with leaves. Use of Barrier Wrap.

Electrical tape used to bring the canes <u>into a bundle</u> – trimming off 1/3 from the top and application of 4 to 5 gal. of compost to the base. Out of 1800 roses – only lost one. Tie up roses then mulch.

Lime Sulfur used by some at end of November then mulch with compost.

Rose Kones – hill with mulch

<u>Rigid Plastic</u> around all new plantings – mound inside with compost and oak leaves. Mound <u>soil with Hemlock</u> mulch

<u>Mulch:</u> Compost and Loam, compost w/shredded leaves-----<u>Pine bark shredded</u> - Scott's Forest Brown. <u>Pine bark nuggets</u> – large size (Keeps weeds at bay). Composted cow or horse manure (or both). Grass/leaves/vegetable scraps compost. Mushroom compost. Combination of seaweed and horse manure. Local 'Dump Mix' compost. Scott's hardwood (Forest Brown).

Heavy mulching with manures all during the year for sandy soils.

<u>Bark mulch</u> – maybe add some lime to counteract acidity.

Twice milled pine bark every other year and compost every year.

Hemlock or pine mulch

Other: ----Combination of compost and composted manures used when planting with original soil. Soil tests in March/April and checked through out year. Adjust ph accordingly. Use of oak leaves packed at base of Minis. Keep beds clean and apply 2-3 inch mulch. One reporter uses bales of chopped Alfa – sold as horse feed – as mulch. Mulch beds well.

Check garden ph level of soil – will add lime this spring.

Deer repellent – 'Liquid Fence' – very effective if used frequently.

NEW ROSES GROWN THIS YEAR AND HOW WELL THEY DID:

- One CR grew a few Bailey Roses purchased last year at YD auction Did well first summer winter yet to see results.
- Planted Super Hero (F), Macy Pride (S) and All the Rage (S) all excellent performers.
- LCl Perennial Blue large blush, smaller second in late August.
- Over the Moon (HT) nice bush for the garden.
- Green Rose (Ch) Did very well till Sept. when rabbit eat it see if rose comes back
- Macy's Pride (S) Did not do well Blackspot
- White Out (S) Excellent disease resistant white single.
- Olen, Sven, and Lena Unremarkable blooms, straggly habit dumb names.
- Easy Does It (F) Beautiful full Blooms (another grower doing well)

- Singin' the Blues (F) Good new mauve rose
- White Licorice (F) Very nice flower form (another report disease free at start, blackspot at end of summer w/o spraying). (Another doing well). (Another doesn't have strong scent as claimed). (2 others Excellent)
- Pink Home Run (S) Not remarkable. Not the vivid color of Home Run
- Pink Home Run (S) nice color better than Home Run
- Pumpkin Patch (F) nice color
- Citrus Splash (S) Started very slowly (bareroot from last years convention)
- Grandma's Blessing (S) Good
- Ch-Ching (Gr) Good
- Pink Promise (HT) Good
- Over the Moon (HT) Good disease resistance promising rose maybe a 'Queen'.
- Legends (HT) not too good.
- Hotel California (HT) just so-so.
- Dick Clark (Gr) small but pretty blooms (another grower doing well).
 (another small but very attractive), (another fair/small/few blooms), (another did well), (another Very Well), (another did well good form & shining foliage).
- Della Balfour (S) Excellent
- Earth Song (Gr) Excellent
- Passionate Kisses (F) Excellent
- Citrus Burst (LCl) Excellent
- Kismet (MinFl) small all summer better in fall with blooms continuing late.
- Bees Knees (Min) growing in pot slow to begin nice foliage & bloom late into fall.
- Cape Diamond (HKor) large healthy shrub with fewer than desired flowers. (another lots of blooms)
- Cinco de Mayo (F) beautiful flowers with healthy foliage.
- Mother of Pearl (Gr) nicely shaped flower on floriferous bushy plant needs regular spray program.
- Purple Splash (LCl) pretty but stayed under 2 feet. (2 others very good), (another fair)
- Colorific (F) lovely blooms but not many of them (another grower doing well), (another beautiful)
- Orange Crush (LCl) received damage poor growth
- Coral Cove (S) doing well
- Lo & Behold (MinFl) fair.
- Pumpkin Patch (F) yummy!!
- Stormy Weather (Min) beautiful
- Grande Dame (HT) very well
- Julia Child (F) potted grew fast, fragrant, bloomed continuously
- Falling in Love (HT) and Electron (HT) leafed out, bloomed once blackspot

- Let Freedom Ring (HT) bloomed several times, grew fast blackspot (another planted late needs another year), (another did not do well needs another year)
- Peace (HT) potted beautiful blooms blackspot
- Double Knockout (S) FABULOUS grew fast filled in empty landscape spots.
- Watercolors (S) gorgeous colors, dainty blooms

NOTE: May change the above requested list next year to 'List New Roses introduced in the last three years grown by you and how well they did'.

DESIRED ATTAINABLE GOALS for the coming year:

- Promoting EP Heritage Rose Garden with informative articles to area publications.
- Successful YD March Convention
- Successful Yankee District Fall weekend.
- Help friends and neighbors with rose related problems
- Successful scheduled talks at local rose society and garden clubs.
- Garden Club programs.
- Some how have a 'presence' at the Hartford Flower Show.
- Write more articles for newsletter and/or web pages.
- Write article on tips for raising hybrid teas in the garden.
- Mentor new members
- Write articles and give rose related programs
- Write a couple of articles for NERS and RIRS. Boston Flower Show presentation and a presentation at the Weston Nursery.
- Stay involved in various committees. Volunteer for demonstrations or lectures to teach the public about roses.
- Writing articles and giving rose related programs to URI Master Gardeners
- Continue to give enthusiastic advice concerning rose culture and continue to care for the roses at my local Church. (Several CRs care for the roses at their local Church)
- Would like some written regulations on CRs doing presentations to the community is there credit?
- Make sure that when a CR submits a report that the receiver acknowledges receipt.
- Talk when asked to speak.
- Getting 5 new CRS member younger than 40.
- Attend local society meetings and provide cultural advice.
- Continue to recruit new members and make them aware of ARS trial program.
- Construct a new rose garden for and existing memorial site.

RECRUITMENT OF NEW MEMBERS FOR CRS and/or ARS:

- Two CRs recruited three (3) new members each.
- Two CRs recruited four (4) new members each.
- One CR reported five (5) new recruits.
- <u>Most CRs</u> conduct seminars and perform civic services that have the effect of recruitment, but they cannot know how many new recruits actually sign-up.
- 'Most friends just aren't interested in joining a society they just ask me for advice on rose culture, which I gladly offer.'
- Many CRs do not track a recruitment list.
- I don't actively recruit new members since that makes me feel like a salesperson. I share information about our rose society very enthusiastically with anyone I encounter that has an interest in roses.

SUGGESTION(S) ON HOW TO MAKE THE CR PROGRAM MORE EFFECTIVE AND CHALLENGING:

- CRs should always answer E-mail questions. Need more actual rose related seminars at YD Conventions.
- Filing reports to the Local CR Coordinator
- Programs presented at the local level for the public.
- Mandate each CR present a program at the local society level.
- Mandate each CR write an article for their Newsletter.
- Make the testing a bit harder to ensure the rosarians can give good advice.
- Do not make earning CR credits so difficult.
- District CR chair should have the authority to approve CR-worthy seminars.
- CRs who are constantly earning credits by being active should not have their credits expire after their 'Audit Year'.
- Program challenging already
- I suggest this 'Annual Report' be submitted before winter's frigid weather so I can be better prepared tosses the roses.
- 'No, I think a good job is being done now.'
- Give programs to garden clubs and Master Gardeners
- The point system should be evaluated
- CRs should wear name tags at meetings and rose shows for better identity.
- Have a table at the CT Flower Show in Hartford.
- Expanding contact with the public at the CRS Rose Show walking tours of Elizabeth Park through out the day, giving flowers away, film about ARS.
- Maybe have a yearly themed article in the district newsletter with contributions by all CRs. Something like 'describe your favorite rose and what you like about it', or 'what one rose variety would you never be without'. Besides the newsletter, it could be posted on the website for public education purposes.
- CRs should make it a point to talk with new members when they attend meetings.
- Stop making changes to the CR national program that makes it seem more like a mandatory, control regimen to check off what you are doing, and concentrate on

making the program more of a program of getting back to the joys of growing roses.

- Rose growing basically has not changed in the 45 years I have been growing roses
 other than the names of the chemicals we use...so let's stop trying to make the
 CR program sound like its cutting edge new knowledge that needs constant
 oversight.
- Make it work for the purposes for which it was established and to gain new rose growers. NOT preaching to ourselves.
- I feel it is effective and challenging just as it is. Good feeling to know that if I cannot answer a specific question, I can find someone in the CR group that can.
- I think the program is working well just as it is.
- Have four (4) meetings each year for all CRs to attend. Locate in a central area and conduct the meeting at night to accommodate those that work.

IS BEING AN ACTIVE CR TOO DEMANDING? CONSIDER EMERITUS? WHY OR WHY NOT.

- Some have voiced concern and agitation over the 'petty politics, personal attacks and one-upmanship at the YD Conventions'.
- When CR-ship becomes too burdensome the emeritus status will become appealing.
- No I enjoy sharing the knowledge about roses and get a great deal of positive feedback from those who appreciate learning.
- No very rewarding helping others to grow roses successfully.
- No change CRs should keep current and active.
- There is nothing neither demanding nor stressful in the manner which the CR program is currently run. Nor a challenge.
- I really enjoy helping and teaching people to raise roses.
- It is not too demanding it's part of my hobby. I enjoy answering the rose related questions feel it keeps me up to date.

I what to thank everyone who participated in this survey, we nearing had 100% participation with (38 out of 39) reporting. In 2003 we had (58) CRs with (44) reporting on the Annual Report. The next year (2004) we increased to (77) CRs with (49) reporting. Now, seven years later we are down to (39) active CRs. Any ideas you may have on how to increase our number would be appreciated.

National ARS is in the process of making major changes to the CR program along with updating the CR Manual. ARS has fallen behind their original schedule of completing this effort by November, 2010 and now estimates completion by early 2012. I will keep you abreast of any new developments.

Respectfully submitted by:

David R. Long

Yankee District CR Chair Dated: February 28, 2011