

AIS Board teleconference Wednesday, March 28

1. Welcome everyone.

Roll Call: **Officers:** Gary White, president; Jody Nolin, 1st VP; Andi Rivarola, 2nd VP; Michelle Snyder, secretary; Jim Morris, immediate past president. **Administrative Officers:** John Ludi, publication sales director; Claire Schneider, recording secretary. **Directors:** Al Elliott, Claire Schneider, Dawn Boyer, David Cupps, Gerry Snyder, Howie Dash, Jill Bonino, John Ludi, Lois Rose, Phyllis Wilburn. **Committee Chairs:** Advertising Editor: Dawn Boyer, Affiliates Liaison: Jody Nolin; Awards: Gerry Snyder; Electronic Services: David Cupps; Exhibitions: Lois Rose and Wayne Messer; Foundation: Jill Bonino; Honorary Awards: Jim Morris; Image Coordinator: Neil Houghton; Iris Program Resources (digital): Neil Houghton; Iris Program Resources (speakers): Al Elliott; Policy: Susan Boyce; Public Relations & Social Media: Andi Rivarola; RVP Counselor: Howie Dash; Section & Cooperating Societies Liaison: Phyllis Wilburn; Strategic Planning: Andi Rivarola; Youth: Cheryl Deaton. **Visitors:** Nancy McDonald, Janis Shackelford (15).

1. Meeting called to order at 5:05 PDT.

2. Iris Program Resources (speakers) Report – Al Elliott

Al has received two requests for speakers and he followed up with formal letters of acknowledgement. Even after sending a second reply, Al never heard from these groups again.

3. AIS Centennial Book update – Nancy McDonald

This book is about the AIS but it will not be an exhaustive history of the AIS. It will be more of a narrative, non-fiction documentary and should be fun and fascinating to read. The book is limited to 200 pages and 25% of that will be gorgeous illustrations. The book will be written from the viewpoint of someone who loves iris but is not a hybridizer, vendor of iris or an AIS officer. Ordinary gardeners will be the future of the AIS and we want this book to be an outreach to them. This book will not be just for iris enthusiasts, but also will be for the casual gardener who potentially might become an iris enthusiast.

There is a timeline for publishing the book. By December of this year, Nancy expects to have a strong outline of the book and a collection of all the proposals for the articles that will be included. Then the search for images will begin. Nancy cautions that before writing anything for the book, people should send her an outline or overview of their article topic. There will not be space in the book for everything submitted.

Discussion: People like to read letters, so please include some in the book. Dave Silverberg might have additional letters and documents to include in the Centennial Book. The book will contain stories of triumphs and successes but to make it real, stories of challenges and quagmires also will be included. A suggestion is to add a CD to the book, titled “deleted stories” that contains all the stories that weren’t included in the book. Paul Gossett might have some interesting convention stories to add to the book. Bob Pries gave Nancy an outline of the major

contributions made by the AIS. 1) enumeration (e.g. the checklists, iris registration, the wiki-encyclopedia, the index of hybridizers); 2) classification (e.g. the organization of iris into classes, the work of the AIS sections); 3) evaluation (e.g. the judging system, the rating system); 4) promotion and education (e.g. iris information in the Bulletin, from conventions, all the information in the wiki). A suggestion is to add a fifth topic, conservation. This would include conservation of documents (e.g. hybridizing records, letters, newsletters) as well as irises (e.g. HIPS). The last suggestion, "Please include lots of funny stories."

4. Affiliations Report – Jody Nolin

The Affiliations report was posted online. At the time Jody wrote the report, 101 of the 158 affiliate clubs had completed their registration with the AIS. As of today, 127 affiliate clubs have submitted their registrations. Three regions have not reported so far. Howie Dash has been of assistance in contacting the RVPs of those regions. Nine regions are totally finished. All of the registration checks have cleared. There has been a problem with the registration of some affiliate clubs because the elected officers are not or will not be AIS members for their entire term of office.

One of the problems with registration this year is the wording in the registration form regarding affiliate officers. It says that elected officers must be AIS members for the duration of their term. The problem is that some officers are not elected, they are appointed. A suggestion is to clarify in the AIS bylaws that all officers must be AIS members.

For the record the AIS bylaws state that the secretary, Michelle, shall receive all checks sent for payments and shall deposit those checks into the AIS accounts. The secretary then shall forward a copy of the deposit record to the AIS Treasurer (i.e. Dwayne Booth). This is part of the financial checks and balances of AIS. In other words, affiliate registration fees should be sent to Michelle.

5. Honorary Awards Report – Jim Morris

The medals have been engraved. The process for producing the Gold Medal is complicated and it's a challenge to find a shop that is able to complete the process.

6. Updates, announcements, miscellaneous

- Anyone taking paper reports to the Spring Meeting in New Orleans needs to take 29 copies.
- Update on the New Orleans Convention. The garden tours are sold out. There was space for 230 and now there is a waiting list. Check out the New Orleans weather report. Rain every day! Take appropriate clothing and consider a water-proof camera. There will be WiFi in all the rooms. (Andi Rivarola)
- A suggestion to everyone: look before you print. Periodically there are changes in forms, prices and persons in charge of programs and supplies. Therefore the suggestion is that when making a request or payment, double check that the correct form is being used for the correct year and that it is being sent to the current person in charge. (Susan Boyce)
- The company that has been making the Wister medals for the AIS has moved and in the process of moving, they lost the form for the medals and the blanks. (Gerry Snyder)
- What is happening with Iris Talks? (Gerry Snyder)

- The beginning time of the AIS Board meeting on Sunday, April 8, has been changed. The meeting will begin at 7 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Claire Schneider