

Minutes of the January 26, 2022, AIS Board of Directors Teleconference
Minutes approved with one correction (in blue), February 23, 2022

Present:

Andi Rivarola (15) - President, Convention Liaison (temporary), Public Relations, Social Media, Strategic Planning, Membership Development
Bonnie Jean Nichols (17) - 1st VP, Judges, Handbook Revision, RVP 17
Howie Dash (23) - 2nd VP, RVP Counselor, Audit Comm, AIS 2022 Convention Co-chair
Claire Schneider (15) - Secretary, Recording Secretary
Jill Bonino (15) – Treasurer, Foundation Liaison
Jody Nolin (6) - Immediate Past President, Honorary Awards, Affiliate Chair
John Ludi (13) – Publication Sales Director, RVP 13
Pam Messer (21) – Membership

Bill Dumont (13) - Director
Cheryl Deaton (15) - Director, Youth
Doug Chyz (5), Director, Public Relations & Marketing
Janis Shackelford (15) – Director, Registrar/Recorder, Policy, RVP 15
Jean Richter (14) - Director
Lorene Crone (7) – Director, Electronic Services
Mike Reed (17) – Director, Awards
Phyllis Wilburn (14) – Director, Section & Cooperating Society Liaison
Scarlett Ayres (23) – Director, AIS 2022 Convention Co-chair
Susan Driver (7) – Director, Calendars, Photo Contest
Wayne Messer (21) - Director, News & Notes, Electronic Services Website, RVP 21

Bob Pries (4) - Encyclopedia Manager, Gardens, Public Relations & Marketing
Gary White (21) - Finance, Webinars
Lois Rose (4) - Exhibitions Schedules
Charlotte Brennand (12) - RVP 12
Jim Hedgecock (18) - RVP 18
Christine Dickinson (14)
Jeannette Graham (11)
Kate Brewitt (2)
Alan Sweeney (11)

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 pm PST.

1. Minutes from December 8, 2021, videoconference - Claire Schneider

Motion 1: to approve the minutes from the December 8, 2021, videoconference.
Motion by Bonnie Nichols and seconded by Jill Bonino. Motion approved.

OLD BUSINESS

2. Update on KnowBe4 - Andi Rivarola

A cost estimate for 50 to 75 people to be enrolled in KnowBe4 is \$59.40 per person for 36 months. Andi presented a list of potential attendees for the security training, including AIS Board members, RVPs, Website Committee members, and committee chairs. Other potential attendees could be the webmasters from the sections, cooperating societies, and regions.

Motion 2: that \$3500 be allocated from the Rainy-Day Fund for security awareness training. Motion by Jody Nolin and seconded by Bonnie Nichols. **Motion approved.**

3. Update on redrawing boundaries for AIS regions - Bonnie Nichols

This committee has met twice to review the boundaries of the AIS regions. Pam Messer, membership chair, has provided data regarding the number of members and their resident regions. One topic has been to review the purpose, functions, and needs of AIS regions. Any realignment of boundaries should address the functions and needs of the residents of any region. Their next meeting will be at the end of February.

4. Update on 2019 Check List - John Ludi, Andi Rivarola, and Gary White

Andi Rivarola has the pdf copy of the *2019 Check List* (ten-year list) and is working on its format so that it can be printed. Because it is in a pdf format, the size of each page is approximately 6.5 by 7 inches. An effort is being made to convert the file to print onto 8.5 by 11-inch paper. Until it can be printed, people can request a digital copy of the *2019 Check List*, in pdf format, from John Ludi. John Ludi reported that five requests for the pdf copy have been made. An original copy of the *2019 Check List* should be in John Jones' computer. An attempt is being made to retrieve a copy of that file. A suggestion was to investigate the program "In Design" by Adobe which John Jones was known to use for the layout and page design for the *Check Lists*.

5. Update on registrations & the 2021 R&I - Janis Shackelford

The *2021 Registrations and Introductions* (R&Is) is completed including the registrations and introductions, hybridizers, corrections to the previous registrations, and new registration data for 2021.

Janis is working on several puzzles: The secretary for the International Society for Horticultural Science (ISHS) from the International Code for the Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants (ICNCP) organization has questioned why names of iris dating back to 2004 have a flag in them.

The iris 'Irisfool' needs a name alteration and inclusion in the *2021 R&I*.

Evidently, files created in FileMaker Pro are converted into a Bliss 2 font when exported. The problem is that Bliss 2 font is not readily available and not compatible with her other programs. Janis asked for assistance with how to install or set up the use of a font that is readily accessible and would allow her to upload the *R&I* to the *Check List*.

The system for entering registrations and introduction is complicated.

A suggestion was that a consultant be hired to assist Janis with the software issues and propose a more efficient system and/or software for entering, organizing, and publishing registrations and introductions.

The computer that was used by John Jones, the previous registrar, is the property of AIS. Arrangements to have that computer and external drives transferred to Janis were discussed.

6. Update on the 2022 Convention, Las Cruces - Howie Dash & Scarlett Ayres

As of January 25, there were 94 registrants. Jill Bonino has assumed the Geek Dinner event, which requires a separate registration. Blue surgical masks will be available at the convention and Howie is investigating the possibility of providing N-95 masks. Social distancing protocols are planned for the banquets and meetings.

New growth is visible in the gardens. The iris have had an extra year of growth and are looking good. There about 670 cultivars including TB, BB, IB, LA, SDB, MTB, and MDB iris. A couple of the gardens continue to cultivate the arilbred iris from the 2018 Aril & Arilbred Convention.

The schedule is available on the Convention website. The Welcome Banquet will celebrate the 100-year anniversary of AIS and the 50-year anniversary of the Mesilla Valley Iris Society. Costumes from the roaring twenties are encouraged for that banquet. The in-garden judges training will be in the Wilson's garden.

7. Update on the Board of Directors Award for 'Chubby Cheeks' - Gary White & Jody Nolin

A picture plaque is being prepared for this award and will presented at the Las Cruces Convention to the hybridizer, Paul Black. A reminder that this award is about the iris and only the fourth time that it has been given. To review, a "Hollywood prop" trophy will be used for the photo session. Afterwards, each award recipient will receive a photo plaque.

8. Update on Honorary Awards - Jody Nolin

The supply of Distinguished Service Awards needs to be replenished. Jody provided a quote of \$234 per award plus shipping. The cost of ordering ten more would be approximately \$2500. The Honorary Award budget will cover this expenditure.

9. Update on the AIS Library - Will Plotner and Jody Nolin

This committee meets monthly. Last month, volunteers put in 52 hours. They are still cleaning up and will get to the inventory soon. A laptop, backup drive, software and scanner have been delivered. The goal is to create an inventory of the contents of the AIS Library.

10. Review of AIS e-membership online Bulletin - Wayne Messer

Previous editions of the *AIS Bulletin* were in a flip-book format. The latest issue was in a pdf format which generated a few complaints. A plug-in is being installed to make the *AIS Bulletin* more secure. One compliment about this new pdf form is that the image on the screen is larger.

NEW BUSINESS

11. Update for Public Relations & Marketing - Doug Chyz

Bob Pries, Wayne Messer and Doug have created a data bank of awards and irises as they were listed in the *AIS Bulletin*. Using the links in this data bank, one can search the awards of a particular iris or search all the iris that have won a particular award in any particular year. The document that Doug shared is just the beginning, only three years' worth of data. The plan is to continue adding years of iris awards to this data bank, going back to the beginning of AIS. Doug called this a "multi-year" project. We were all very impressed with the scope and progress of this project.

12. Schedule of Spring Reports - Claire Schneider

Claire has created a tentative schedule for the spring reports and asked that anyone who wants to change the date of their report send her an email. The objective is to hear most of the reports in monthly Zoom meetings leaving only a few for the Spring Convention Board Meeting.

These are the reports scheduled for the February 23 teleconference (emphasis on management):

President – Andi Rivarola	Convention Liaison – Andi Rivarola
1 st VP – Bonnie Nichols	Policy – Janis Shackelford
2 nd VP – Howie Dash	Recording Secretary – Claire Schneider
Secretary – Claire Schneider	Registrar – Janis Shackelford
Immediate Past President – Jody Nolin	

13. Webinars - Gary White

On February 2, Patrick Spence will be giving an extensive program on Japanese iris. On February 9, the program will be on growing iris in containers given by Doug Chyz. Neither of the February webinars will include a judges training.

Programs are in the works for March. Because of the convention, shows, treks and hybridizing, there are no webinars scheduled for April and May.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER ISSUES

Scarlett Ayres has been working on the interview of Barry Blyth and requested that photos of Barry be sent to her which could be included in the interview.

The next Board of Directors Meeting will be February 23, 2022, at 5 pm PST.

The meeting adjourned at 6:33 pm PST.

Respectfully submitted,
Claire Schneider