

# **2018 Fall Board Meeting American Iris Society**

## **Report of General Counsel**

IRS Group Exemption for the AIS. On July 1, 2018, we submitted our annual Group Exemption Letter to the IRS. Newly added affiliate organizations are:

Novelty Iris Society  
East Texas Iris Society

The Inland Region Iris Society (IRIS) is in the process of completing the necessary paperwork to join in the AIS Group Tax Exemption.

Data Breach Insurance Coverage. AIS Secretary Michelle Snyder has asked for my advice regarding the purchase of insurance coverage for potential data breaches. I will be consulting with David Cupps to evaluate the nature and extent of AIS' risk in that area and to learn about safeguards already in place. Once I've had that opportunity I can make a recommendation. Due to scheduling issues (mostly mine) I was not able to complete this process prior to the Board meeting.

Dwarf Iris Society. There have been ongoing discussions relating to the potential dissolution of the DIS and its merger with the Median Iris Society. This process appears to be on hold and the DIS is still in existence.

Intellectual Property. It appears that information contained in the members-only section of the AIS database has been copied without permission and exported to the National Gardening Association's website at Garden.org, specifically to <https://garden.org/plants/group/irises/>. Intellectual property is not an area in which I specialize so I have consulted with two other lawyers to get further information.